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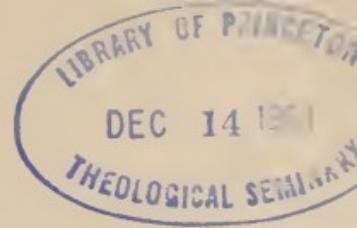
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THE



PROVINCIAL DIGEST:

SUPPLEMENTARY TO

THE RESULTS OF THE GENERAL SYNOD OF 1879.

REVISED EDITION

ORDERED TO BE PUBLISHED BY

THE PROVINCIAL SYNOD OF THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF
THE AMERICAN PROVINCE OF THE UNITAS FRATRUM
(MORAVIANS), HELD AT BETHLEHEM, PA.,
SEPTEMBER 19 TO OCTOBER 3, 1888.

BETHLEHEM, PA.:
MORAVIAN PUBLICATION OFFICE.
1889.

THE PROVINCIAL DIGEST.

Resolved, I. That the collection of rules and regulations, including those of the present Synod, be printed under the title of "The Provincial Digest."

II. That the Committee appointed to control the application and disbursement of the Special Publication Fund be requested to furnish the necessary money.

III. That a copious index be prepared to facilitate reference.

IV. That "The Provincial Digest" be distributed gratis and liberally in our congregations.—(Journal, 1881, pp. 104, 105.)

Resolved, That as soon as possible after the adjournment of this Provincial Synod, there shall be published revised editions of "The Provincial Digest" and "Provinzial Ordnung," with such omissions and additions as are rendered necessary by the legislation of the Provincial Synods of 1884 and 1888.—(Journal, 1888, p. 107.)

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THE PROVINCIAL DIGEST:
SUPPLEMENTARY TO THE RESULTS OF THE GENERAL SYNOD
OF 1879

CHAPTER I.

THE BRETHREN'S CHURCH.

§ 3. 4.* *Relation to the Brethren's Unity of the American Province; Declaration of Principles.*

WHEREAS, The settlement of principles renders easier the decision of special cases which may arise, therefore

Resolved. I. That this Synod recognizes the fact that it is 1 only as an integral part of the Brethren's Unity that the American Province has any right to present separate existence as a Church among the Churches of our land.

II. That this Synod declares that it is firmly held by the 2 bond of doctrine, ritual, discipline, constitution, the work of education, home, foreign and Bohemian missions, which unites the several Provinces of our Church into a Unity of Brethren.

III. That this Synod further declares with regard to our 3 own Province, that the interests of all parts are one and the same and indivisible.

IV. That this Synod disapproves of all appeals to sectional feeling, or assumed sectional interests, and further, of all threats, open or implied, as contrary to the spirit of the Brethren's Unity. (Journal, 1881, pp. 37, 38, 39.) 4

* The references are to the sections and sub-divisions as given in the authoritative German Version of the Results of the General Synod of 1879. The numbers of the sub-divisions are wanting in the English translation; but the sections are the same. For the use of the marginal figures, see the Index.

CHAPTER II.

DOCTRINE AND MINISTRY OF THE WORD.

§ 11, 3. *Conformity to the Doctrinal Standards.*

- 1** In the Brethren's Unity, it is not permitted to urge the doctrine of "the final salvation of all men," or the doctrine of "the annihilation of the wicked." (In der Brueder-Unitaet darf weder die Lehre von der endlichen Seligkeit Aller, noch die von der Vernichtung der Boesen getrieben werden.) This declaration means that a member of the Brethren's Church is not justified in seeking to win over other souls to a belief in these doctrines, neither of which, to say the least, is clearly taught by the Scriptures, and the last of which is directly opposed by the statements of our doctrinal standards. (Synodal Results, 1869 and 1879, p. 162.)

§ 11, 4. *Qualifications for the Ministry.*

- 2** That no person shall be employed as a missionary or minister in any of our churches unless the Provincial Elders' Conference shall be fully satisfied with his qualifications for such office, including an acquaintance with the doctrines, principles and discipline of the Brethren's Church, and unless he shall have been a member of the same, either in this country or elsewhere, for at least one year next preceding his appointment, always provided that the restriction as to time and membership shall not apply to regularly ordained ministers and licentiates presenting the proper credentials. (Journal, 1868, pp. 89, 90, 99.)

§ 11, 4. *Licensing of Candidates.*

- 3** That before regular candidates for the ministry, or other brethren who desire to preach, statedly engage in the public ministration of the Gospel, they be licensed by the Provincial Elders' Conference, after having been duly examined by said Conference. (Journal, 1867, p. 65.)

§ 12. *Family Worship and the Instruction of Youth.*

- 4** I. That we, as a Church, do solemnly recognize the Christian training of the young as one of the greatest instrumentalities for the conversion of the world; that parents are hereby urged to co-operate with the Church in the religious education of their children; that we give to the Sabbath-school our prayers and united labors, and that we, through

thorough instruction of the children in the facts and doctrines of the Holy Scriptures, strive to lead them, in their early years, to Jesus, to a living experience of His pardoning grace and to a sincere devotion of their lives to His service.

II. That the Synod declares it to be the duty of all parents belonging to our congregations to encourage the regular and stated attendance of children upon the services of our Church, and to strive to ensure their early connection in membership therewith ; and that this Synod enjoins upon all our ministers the propriety of frequently presenting to parents and members the subject of the duties they owe to their children. (Journal, 1867, pp. 79, 80, 88, 89.) 1

§ 12, 3. *The Text Book.*

That the special attention of the pastors and elders of our Church be directed to the importance of introducing the Text Book of the Church into every family. (Journal, 1878, p. 143.) 2

§ 12, 4. *Religious Instruction.*

That this Synod charges our pastors to devote their faithful attention to the regular imparting of religious instruction to the children and youth of their congregations, not only in the Sunday-school, but also in children's meetings, and in special hours of religious instruction in the catechism of our Church. (Journal, 1864, pp. 58, 59.) 3

CHAPTER III.

THE LITURGY. (RITUAL AND WORSHIP.)

§ 13, 1. *Uniformity Desirable.*

I. That as the Ritual of the Church is the expression of its inner collective life (*vide* Synodal Results of 1857, § 14) [1879, § 13], the Synod recommends to the pastors of our churches to *maintain* or *reintroduce* a greater uniformity in the use of our Ritual, in as much as the agreement in the substance of our Ritual constitutes one of the strongest bonds of union. (Journal, 1864, pp. 58, 59.) 4

II. That this Synod urges anew upon our ministers and congregations more efforts at uniformity of Ritual. (Journal, 1888, p. 114.) 5

§ 13, 2, and § 14, 2. *Diversity of Modes.*

- 1 I. That it is advantageous to pastors and people, if they unite occasionally to hold convocations in their respective congregations, with the view to counsel and encourage each other, and also to combine their strength in the carrying on of the work of the Lord ; but that Synod impresses upon the attention of ministers so assembling, that in their exhortations and sermons, whilst these are directed to the all-important matter of awakening reflection in the hearts of sinners and building up believers in their faith, they shall faithfully hold forth and maintain the established principles and rules of the Moravian Church. (Journal, 1864, pp. 61, 62.)
- 2 II. That this Synod recommends to the ministers of our congregations to hold prayer and other meetings, wherever there are indications that good may be effected thereby, with a view of reviving and confirming believers, and of awakening and converting sinners.
- 3 III. That Synod impresses upon the attention of all ministers holding such meetings, that they shall be conducted in accordance with the established principles and rules of the Moravian Church. (Journal, 1870, pp. 66, 67.)

§ 16, 1-5. *Observance of the Lord's Day.*

- 4 I. That ministers and superintendents of Sunday-schools, parents and teachers, be requested to impress upon the minds of those in their charge, both old and young, the duty and importance of keeping holy the Sabbath day, and of opposing all the influences which are brought to bear against this holy institution. (Journal, 1870, pp. 66, 67.)
- 5 II. We solemnly charge all the members of our Church to abstain from unnecessary travel, as well as from frequenting public houses on the Sabbath, such conduct being not only unchristian, but also disreputable in the eyes of respectable persons. Further, we exhort them to avoid the very appearance of an habitual neglect of the public services of the sanctuary on that day, and to be careful that the recreations indulged in on the same be innocent, and interfere neither with their own attendance nor with that of others on divine worship. (Journal, 1855, p. 130, § 15.)

§ 16, 6. *Use of the Litany.*

- 6 I. All our congregations are hereby instructed to use our most excellent and impressive Church-litany, statedly engaging therein with due reverence and unction. (Journal, 1855, p. 131, § 18, 3.)

II. That this Synod instruct the ministers of our various 1 congregations, on no account to suffer any other litany to be prayed in their respective churches, except their own. (Journal, 1855, p. 140.)

III. That when the litany is used, it be prayed in connection with the sermon. (Journal, 1855, p. 140.)

IV. That the Synod enjoins upon the congregations of 3 the Province to respond more heartily to the petitions of the Church-litany. (Journal, 1864, pp. 72, 82.)

V. That our Bishops be requested to compile short English 4 and German litanies for use at the Sunday evening service. (Journal, 1888, pp. 78, 115.)

§ 17. 2. Services of the Passion Week.

That Synod recommends to all our ministers and congregations 5 to observe the reading of the "Last Acts of the Son of Man" during the Passion Week. (Journal, 1864, pp. 58, 59.)

§ 18. Use of the Surplice.

I. In order to avoid the appearance of esteeming Holy 6 Baptism as less fully a sacrament than is the Lord's Supper, it was resolved, that wherever it can be done without offense, the minister shall wear the surplice at the administration of Baptism as well as at the administration of the Lord's Supper. (Synodal Results, 1848, § 24.)

II. That this Synod recommends a more general use of 7 the surplice on sacramental occasions. (Journal, 1867, p. 103.)

§ 19, 1 and 2. Infant Baptism.

I. That we enjoin upon all our ministers to observe the 8 order established by the General Synod, that baptisms shall ordinarily be performed in a public meeting of the congregation, and when members of the Church refuse to have their children baptized, it be represented to them that such refusal is in violation of an express rule of the Church, and is virtually a withdrawal from the Church. (Journal, 1864, p. 59.)

II. That especial attention be called to the rule laid down 9 in Provincial Digest, in reference to the administration of the rite of Infant Baptism. (Journal, 1888, pp. 78, 115.)

§ 20, 1. Immersion of Adults—the exception.

I. In administering the rite of Baptism the mode heretofore 10 in use amongst us, that of affusion, shall continue to

be the rule. In special cases only, and by way of exception, immersion shall be allowed, provided, that there is not combined with a desire for this mode of baptism a rejection of infant baptism. (Synodal Results, 1869, Appendix 2, p. 3 : 1879, p. 162.)

- 1 II. That each case of immersion falling under the rule of the Church, as laid down by the General Synod of 1869 (see Appendix C., Results of General Synod, § 2), be first reported to the Provincial Elders' Conference for their sanction, before the rite is administered. (Journal, 1870, p. 86.)

§ 20. Status of those Confirmed or Baptized.

- 2 That in general the rule shall obtain in all our churches, that all who are confirmed or received by baptism as adults, are thereby received as full communicant members into the Moravian Church. (Journal, 1861, p. 44.)

§ 21, 1. The Right Hand of Fellowship.

- 3 That it be recommended by this Synod to all our congregations, to observe the significant custom of giving the right hand of fellowship at the commencement and close of the celebration of the Lord's Supper. (Journal, 1867, p. 103.)

§ 21, 2. Communion Seasons.

- 4 That the Holy Communion be administered more frequently, and, if desired, monthly. (Journal, 1861, pp. 52, 67.)

§ 21, 4. Abstaining from the Lord's Supper.

- 5 That Synod lays it down as a rule of discipline for all our congregations, that if any member of the Church willfully and persistently abstains from participating in the Lord's Supper, or attending upon divine service, he be excluded from church fellowship. (Journal, 1864, p. 82.)

§ 21, 7. Thanksgiving Service.

- 6 I. To recommend to all the ministers and churches of our Province to carry out the provisions contained in § 21, of the Results of the General Synod of 1857 (*vide* p. 21) [1879, § 21], with special reference to the introduction of the thanksgiving service after the celebration of the Holy Communion, where they have not taken place hitherto. (Journal, 1861, pp. 54, 65.)

II. That this Synod reiterates the recommendation with 1 regard to the thanksgiving services after the celebration of the Holy Communion, and urges upon pastors and congregations their faithful observance. (Journal, 1864, pp. 74, 77.)

§ 21, 7. Preparation for the Lord's Supper.

It is recommended to our ministers whenever they announce the celebration of the Lord's Supper, to invite all such as feel desirous of conversing with them, to call on them at a certain designated time and place. (Journal, 1855, p. 131, § 18, and p. 141.) 2

§ 24, 1. Memorial Days and the History of our Church.

That our ministers be requested to instruct their respective congregations more thoroughly in the history of the Church, and to train them, if possible, to a regular observance of the special memorial-days of the Church. (Journal, 1876, pp. 87, 88.) 3

§ 25, 2-4. Prayer Meetings.

I. That for the increase of the body and the edifying of 4 itself in love, and for the effectual working together in the measure of every part, the diversified gifts of individuals should be combined and called into lively exercise. To this end the original "band-meetings," composed of subdivisions of the congregations, be revived, wherever practicable, in which each member present be requested to give an account of his or her religious experiences or feelings; and that on these occasions brethren and sisters meet apart. (Journal, 1861, pp. 52, 66.)

II. We recommend that prayer-meetings be held as frequently as the necessities and desires of the congregations may demand. (Journal, 1858, pp. 75, 76.) 5

III. That this Synod anew recommends the regular holding of social or cottage prayer-meetings in all our congregations, as a means for growth in grace. (Journal, 1878, pp. 142, 143.) 6

IV. That this Synod re-affirms its conviction that social 7 prayer-meetings, properly conducted, are a most important means of grace, and that it urges our pastors to endeavor to maintain or establish them in all of our congregations. (Journal, 1881, pp. 105, 106.)

§ 25. 5. *Unceasing Prayer.*

- 1** That pastors and congregations unite in fervent petitions for the outpouring of the spirit of prayer upon our whole Church, that in public and in private, in the family, in the social circle, and in the church, the name of our God and Saviour may be glorified through the unceasing supplication of His people. (Journal, 1867, pp. 78, 88.)

§ 26. 4. *Love-feasts.*

- 2** 1. We recommend love-feasts on festive occasions, and deem them very suitable in connection with the celebration of the Lord's Supper. (Journal, 1858, pp. 75, 76.)
- 3** II. Our love-feasts ought properly to be regarded as private meetings merely, designed only for members of the Church. It is however left to the Boards of Elders of our respective churches to determine what restrictions with regard to the admission of strangers to such meetings shall be made in every instance. (Journal, 1855, pp. 131, 132. § 21.)

§ 26. 7. *Sunday-school Hymn-book.*

- 4** That the introduction and general use of the collection of Sabbath-school hymns, be recommended to our congregations. (Journal, 1867, p. 103.)

§ 27. 1. *The Minister and the Church Music.*

- 5** Our ministers, being *ex officio* directors of our church-music, are hereby instructed to retain, as far as possible, our own peculiar sacred music, and, wherever practicable, to take measures to have our school children taught to sing our own tunes. (Journal, 1855, p. 132, § 22, d.)

CHAPTER IV.

THE GOVERNMENT OF OUR SAVIOUR.

§ 29. *September 16th and November 13th.*

- 6** That the celebration of the memorial-day of November 13th be recommended, in commemoration not only of the powerful experience made on the 16th of September, 1741, that our Saviour, being the Chief Shepherd and Head of the Church Universal, is as such the Chief Shepherd and Head of the Unity of the Brethren, but also of the hearty confession of this truth by the congregation on November 13th in the same year, when they tendered their allegiance

to Him as their Lord and Master ; at the same time we disclaim the idea of our Saviour being considered to hold any ecclesiastical office in the Brethren's Church. (Journal. 1856. pp. 81, 82.)

CHAPTER V.

THE USE OF THE LOT.

A Hearty Endorsement.

I. That this Synod fully acquiesces in all the views on **1** the Use of the Lot contained in Chapter V., Synodal Results of 1869 [and 1879].

II. That we recommend a careful perusal of said Chapter **2** to all the Brethren whom it may concern, to the end that, if it so please God, every believing son and servant of the Lord may attain to the same measure of faith once accorded to our fathers. (Journal, 1878, pp. 135, 136.)

§ 34, 5. Special Rules for the Province.

I. That when the members of the Provincial Elders' Conference, whilst deliberating on an appointment, are *fully* and *unanimously* convinced that they desire, in sincere faith, for *themselves*, the direction of the Lord through the Lot, then they may ask the question by the Lot ; but such use of the Lot shall be binding on the Provincial Elders' Conference only, and not on the person to whom the appointment is offered. **3**

II. That when a brother or sister receives a call from the **4** Provincial Elders' Conference, and requires a *special Lot* for his or her direction, he or she may ask the Provincial Elders' Conference, in writing, to have a special Lot cast for himself or herself, and the directions given by the Lot shall be absolutely binding upon that brother or sister.

III. That when a brother or sister is desirous of having, **5** in his or her private affairs, a decision by Lot, the use of the Lot shall be allowed, provided the Provincial Elders' Conference becomes satisfied that the applicant for its use is possessed of implicit faith and confidence, and will yield perfect obedience to and cheerful acquiescence in the Lord's will thus ascertained ; and provided further, that the matter concerning which the Lot is requested be of such a nature as to render its use proper in the estimation of the Provincial Elders' Conference. (Journal. 1856. pp. 80, 82.)

CHAPTER VI.

CONGREGATIONS AND THEIR ORGANIZATION.

§ 35. 1. *Membership.*

- 1 That pastors be requested to construe the instructions of General Synod on the subject of church membership in such a manner as to secure, as far as possible, a membership that has met with a change of heart. (Journal, 1876, pp. 76, 77.)

Lay Activity.

- 2 I. That we consider it a cheering and blessed token for good, that in a number of our congregations lay brethren have come forward as efficient helps to the labors of their pastors, both in private and in public social prayer-meetings; and, whilst we utterly condemn an uncharitable disposition to judge our brethren who do not and cannot publicly come forward and speak of the state of their hearts, we earnestly urge upon all the Apostle's command, at all proper times "to be ready to give a reason of the hope that is within them," and boldly to stand up for Jesus. (Journal, 1861, pp. 52, 67.)
- 3 II. That it is highly important to the members of our Church that the young men of our congregations be early interested, as far as practicable, in the lay-work of the congregations. (Journal, 1867, pp. 80, 89.)

§ 36. *Pastoral Visits.*

- 4 I. Our ministers will exert themselves to pay pastoral visits to the members of their charge as frequently as possible, and will on such occasions endeavor to deepen the impression that it affords them pleasure to see their members at the parsonage, and that they are ready at all times, in private conversations, faithfully to deal with individual souls. (Resolutions of 1855, p. 22, § 11.)
- 5 II. We recommend private religious conversation by the pastor with individual members, whenever occasion offers, and also at stated times. (Journal, 1858, pp. 75, 76; 1873, p. 71.)
- 6 III. Synod having learned with pleasure, from the statements made, that, when a pastor in his visits to the families of his charge, having their spiritual welfare at heart, finds circumstances not unfavorable or forbidding for gathering the household together for prayer, the blessing of the Lord will follow, therefore recommends pastoral visits of this nature. (Journal, 1858, pp. 75, 76.)

Earnest Preaching Recommended.

That pastors ever strive more and more, through grace **1** to make the preached word a word of urgency, of emphasis, and of power, that the signs accompanying the proclamation of the Gospel may gladden their ministry in the conversion of sinners and in the establishment of forgiven souls in their most holy faith. (Journal, 1867, pp. 79, 88.)

Pastoral Visits not to be left to the Pastor alone.

That the pastors and elders, and other spiritually-minded **2** members of our congregations, give earnest heed to the duty of pastoral visitation, exhorting the sinner, comforting the sick, and, after the apostolical example, preaching the Gospel from house to house. (Journal, 1867, pp. 80, 88.)

All should be interested.

That all the communicant members of our congregations **3** be requested to meet at least once annually for the purpose of considering the spiritual interests of the congregation and community, and of seeking renewed interest in the Lord's work. (Journal, 1873, p. 71.)

Non-resident Members.

Brethren and sisters residing at a distance from a congregation are expected to keep up their connection with it by friendly correspondence with their ministers. (Synodal Results, 1848, § 51.)

Faithfulness Enjoined.

I. That amid the peculiar temptations to forget God, of **5** the progressive age in which we are living, * * * * this Synod urges its churches to be watchful and prayerful, and to follow closely in the footsteps of Jesus; and more especially enjoins upon the ministers of the Church to copy, in their preaching and practice, the simplicity, godly sincerity and devotion of the fathers of the Moravian Church, remembering that "the time is short," and that they "watch for souls" as they that must soon "give an account of their stewardship." (Journal, 1876, pp. 87, 88.)

II. That this Synod urgently requests all their pastors to **6** regulate their labors in such a manner that they may be enabled, at all times, to give favorable replies on the various points bearing upon the spiritual state of their charges. (Journal, 1878, pp. 142, 143.)

Removal of Members.

- 1 I. All brethren and sisters removing from one congregation to another, are to be provided with testimonials by their respective pastors. (Synodal Results, 1848, § 51.)
- 2 II. That in the case of brethren and sisters removing to places where congregations of our Church are in existence, pastors notify the pastors in charge of such congregations, and furnish them with the addresses of such brethren and sisters. (Journal, 1884, pp. 23, 58, 59.)
- 3 III. That this Synod urges upon all members of our Moravian Church that when they remove their residence to cities, towns, villages and country neighborhoods where there are Moravian congregations, they take with them letters of dismissal to said congregations. (Journal, 1884, pp. 58, 59.)

§ 36. 3. Contributions.

- 4 It is the duty of every adult member of the congregation to contribute according to his ability towards the wants of his particular congregation. (Synodal Results, 1818.)

Parsonages should be furnished.

- 5 That the attention of the congregations is hereby called to the advisability of furnishing at least a majority of the rooms in their parsonage. (Journal, 1870, p. 74.)

Proper Financial Support.

- 6 I. That it shall be the duty of the Provincial Elders' Conference, in a communication addressed to the parties, or executive board of the parties applying for a minister, and to such congregations whose case requires it, officially to announce to them that the minister who is to serve said congregation shall have a sufficient and decent support; that, being the servant of the Church, sent by its authority, the Executive Board who sends him should be assured in advance that he will be thus supported. (Journal, 1873, pp. 80, 81.).
- 7 II. That the Provincial Elders' Conference make earnest representations on the subject to the Board of Elders and Trustees of every congregation whose pastor has stated that his salary is insufficient, and ask them to adopt such measures as in their judgment will be calculated to remedy this evil, and that the Provincial Elders' Conference report to the next Synod the names of such congregations as fail to come up to their ability and responsibility. (Journal, 1884, pp. 77, 78.)

Systematic Beneficence and Envelope System.

That this Synod recommends to all our congregations to 1 adopt the Scriptural plan of contributing to the support of the minister and to beneficent causes, namely—"to lay by them in store on the first day of the week as the Lord has prospered them;" and to give effect to this plan they further recommend to those congregations which have not adopted some other fixed and satisfactory method, the introduction of the "envelope system," or some similar mode of paying contributions to the support of the Gospel. (Journal, 1873, pp. 80, 81.)

All Church Property is Trust Property.

I. In case of secession from the Unity, a congregation 2 loses all right to the property of which it has had the management. (Journal, 1847, § 58.)

II. The claim of a congregation upon the estate held in 3 its name shall be null and void, as soon as said congregation expressly or virtually throws off its connection with the Brethren's Unity. (Journal, 1849, p. 25, II.)

III. The individual members of a congregation are not 4 in any way entitled to a claim upon the property, nor subject to a liability for its debts. (Journal, 1849, p. 25, III.)

IV. No city or country congregation shall have authority 5 to make any change in the title-deeds of its real estate without permission of the Provincial Elders' Conference. (Resolutions, 1855, p. 21, I., 3.)

V. That the Provincial Elders' Conference be instructed, 6 as far as practicable, to require that all titles to Church properties hereafter acquired by congregations in this Province, be vested in their corporation, in trust for each respective congregation, to become absolute in case of the cessation of a Moravian organization worshiping in said church: and that they shall, as far as possible, take mortgages from those now in operation, for the amount of contributions raised in the Province to assist in their erection—provided that no interest shall be charged upon said mortgages, and that the enforcement of the same be left to the discretion of the Provincial Elders' Conference. (Journal, 1864, p. 64.)

VI. That the Provincial Elders' Conference be instructed, 7 in every case in which as a corporation it holds the titles to Church properties, to require new deeds to be drawn, which

in strict accordance with the original enactment of the Synod of 1864 (Journal, Appendix E, 15), shall, first, make over such titles in trust; second, contain a provision, that if a congregation worshiping in such a church ceases to exist, or ceases to be a Moravian congregation, the title shall become absolute; and, third, set forth a stipulation to the effect that the Provincial Elders' Conference is in no wise to be held responsible for the payment of any debts resting on the property, or for any improvements thereafter to be made. (Journal, 1881, pp. 64, 65.)

- 1** VII. That hereafter no Home Mission church shall receive any aid whatsoever from the Home Mission Fund, unless the title of said church property be vested in the Provincial Elders' Conference. (Journal, 1876, p. 98.)

Annual Reports of the Treasurers.

- 2** That, in the opinion of this Synod, the several congregations of this Province should require and insist upon having from their respective treasurers an annual statement of their finances. (Journal, 1864, p. 64.)

Church Collections.

- 3** That Synod recommends the introduction of collections in morning and evening Sunday services, and after each Holy Communion, in our churches. (Journal, 1867, p. 104.)

§ 37, 4. Admission of Congregations.

- 4** That no congregation before it is self-supporting shall be entitled to lay representation at Provincial Synods. (Journal, 1876, p. 64.)

§ 37, 7. Reception of Members.

- 5** That this general rule shall obtain, that the reception of members into our Church shall take place in a public service, after they have undergone a careful probation and have received a preparatory course of instruction in the history, principles and discipline of our Church, by the minister or home missionary, all exceptional cases to be decided by the Provincial Elders' Conference. (Journal, 1861, p. 44.)

§ 38. The Choir or Class System.

- 6** That the pastors and elders of our churches be hereby earnestly requested to divide their congregations into classes or districts, as soon as possible, and to appoint a

suitable superintendent over each division, whose duty it shall be to aid the pastor in his work in that part of the congregation. Each of these classes or divisions shall meet at least twice in a year, under the leadership of the pastor, or such other member as the pastor or elders may appoint, and conduct their meetings in such a manner as may seem most advisable, until a uniform plan be adopted by the Provincial Synod or District Synod. (Journal, 1873, pp. 70, 71.)

§ 38. Class System—Additional Rules.

- I. That the pastors and elders of congregations divide **1** their congregations, as soon as may be practicable, into classes, the distinctive idea of which shall be fellowship in the Christian experience and in the work for souls.
- II. That in forming these classes, pastors and elders be **2** guided by the circumstances and the needs of their several congregations, dividing the membership according to their respective localities, or according to the duties required of them, or according to the "choir" system still prevailing in some of our older congregations, or in such other ways as they may deem most advisable to secure the ends in view.
- III. That while pastors and elders thus use liberty, they **3** also strive by consultation, especially at District Synods, to secure as much uniformity as is possible among the several congregations.
- IV. That, as soon as practicable, a member of the **4** congregation be selected by pastor and elders to act in conjunction with them, as superintendent of each class, and that great stress be laid on the prayer and personal labors of those who constitute these classes. (Journal, 1876, p. 69.)
- V. That it be recommended that where the class or choir **5** system is no longer observed, or has never been introduced, the members of each class or choir be brought together at least once a year in a meeting for mutual edification and Christian fellowship. (Journal, 1888, pp. 103, 114.)

§ 38, 2, 3. Celebration of Choir-Days.

- The decision as to the observance of choir-days in the **6** several congregations belongs solely to the minister in conjunction with the Board of Elders or Standing Committee of the respective congregations. (Journal, 1855, p. 108.)

§ 44, 1. *Parochial Schools.*

- 1 I. That this Synod reiterates the declaration of the General Synod, which urges the establishment of Parochial Schools in our congregations, wherever practicable.
- 2 II. That the ministers of our congregations regard the superintendence of the Parochial Schools, wherever such exist, as one of the most important duties of their office.
- 3 III. That in the appointment of directors and officers of Parochial Schools, it shall ever be borne in mind, that one main object of such institutions, is to instill into the minds of our children and youth, sound Christian principles and patriotic love for the Church. (Journal, 1868, pp. 101, 121.)

§ 44, 3. *Sunday Schools and Bible Classes.*

- 4 I. Being deeply impressed with the importance of Sunday-schools and Bible-classes, it is recommended that all our ministers faithfully maintain them where they already exist, and introduce them where they do not. (Journal, 1855, p. 129, § 11, b.)
- 5 II. That Synod enjoins upon all our congregations to continue the Sunday-school during the Winter season as well as during the Summer; and it is likewise recommended that the teachers' meetings be regularly kept by the pastors of our congregations. (Journal, 1864, pp. 72, 82.)
- 6 III. That in order that the older scholars be retained in the Sunday-school, and that, in general, our people may be better taught in the Word of God, the Synod earnestly recommends our pastors to establish Bible-classes in connection with our Sunday-schools, wherever these do not already exist, and, if possible, to instruct them personally. (Journal, 1884, pp. 76, 78.)
- 7 IV. That in view of the fact that the Sabbath-school is the most important auxiliary of the Christian Church, inasmuch as lives may be rescued from the service and slavery of Satan and won for our Saviour in the conversion of children, this Synod urges it upon parents who are communicant members of our Church, as their sacred duty, to manifest a greater interest in the Sunday-school work, by personally identifying themselves as teachers or Bible-class scholars of their several Sunday-schools in so far as circumstances permit; thus using all their influence to encourage children and adults to a more faithful attendance, and at the same time to retain the older scholars among the young men and women as regular attendants. (Journal, 1876, pp. 87, 88.)

V. That this Synod recommends that Sunday-school 1
prayer-meetings for teachers and scholars be held. (Journal, 1878, pp. 142, 143.)

VI. That we deem it of the highest importance for the 2
welfare of our Sunday-schools, that our teachers should
frequently and stately unite together in prayer for their
charges, so as to be able to claim the blessings of the Lord,
promised to those who agree in calling upon Him. (Journal,
1881, pp. 105, 106.)

§ 47. 1. Care of the Poor and the Sick.

That in regard to systematic efforts for the relief of the 3
poor, the special attention of ministers and churches be
called to § 84 of the Synodal Results of 1857, [§ 47 of the
Synodal Results of 1879]. (Journal, 1864, pp. 72, 79.)

CHAPTER VII.

DISCIPLINE.

§ 48. 1. Discipline Essential.

I. That as descendants of the Ancient Brethren's Church, 4
we deem a holy discipline essential to the maintenance and
spiritual growth of our Church.

II. In common with the Ancient Brethren, we under- 5
stand by the word discipline, in its wider sense, a faithful
care of souls by means of public instruction and personal
conversation with communicants and others. The latter is
especially desirable, and should never be declined. (Journal,
1867, pp. 81, 93.)

Discipline.

I. WHEREAS, The Church of Christ is called at this 6
time to take advanced ground in all matters pertaining to
Christian character and duty; and

WHEREAS, Our Moravian Church has always sought to 7
attain this object by dealing with the individual believer,
therefore,

I. *Resolved*, That this Synod urge upon our ministers and 8
elders anew the importance of caring for individual souls,
and of training them for Christian work and usefulness.

II. *Resolved*, That those who have the oversight in our 9
congregations see to it that every member be made to feel
that he is needed in the work of the Church and that he be
assigned to some place of active service. (Journal, 1888,
pp. 103, 113.)

§ 48-53. *Members to be instructed in the Discipline.*

1. I. That the Synod recommends to the pastors of all our churches the reading of the chapter on Discipline to their congregations once every year. (Journal, 1868, pp. 77, 85.)
2. II. That it shall be the duty of pastors and Boards of Elders to make themselves and their respective congregations fully acquainted with the contents of the chapter on Discipline in the Results of the General Synod of 1869. (Journal, 1870, pp. 88, 89; 1873, p. 65.)
3. III. That it shall be the duty of every pastor to preach a sermon annually on the subject of Church Discipline. (Journal, 1873, p. 65.)
4. IV. That our Bishops be requested to prepare a Tract in both the English and German languages, to be one of the series of Moravian Tracts already published, on the subject of Church Discipline, embodying therein, as far as this is possible, §§ 39, 40, 41 and 42 of the Results of the General Synod of 1879. (Journal, 1888, pp. 103, 114.)

§§ 48 and 49. *Degrees in Discipline.*

5. In a restricted sense, discipline consists in reformatory and penal action towards erring members, and has three degrees.
6. 1. The first degree is private reproof and correction by the pastor, or other official brethren. Should this fail of the desired effect,
7. 2. The second degree must be applied by citing delinquents into the presence of the Elders, who are to admonish them faithfully and in love. A contumacious refusal to meet the Elders at once forfeits membership; whilst a refusal on the part of the Elders to aid the pastor in exercising discipline obliges the church-council to supersede them by appointing such Elders as are willing to discharge the duties of their office. When in the exercise of this degree of discipline, immediate reformation is not attained, the Elders may exercise the milder discipline of suspension from the communion, unless, in their estimation, offences are so flagrant as to require the application of
8. 3. The third degree of discipline, which is *exclusion* from church fellowship. The names of those who are thus excluded, should be publicly announced in a meeting of adult members of the Church, and heartfelt prayer offered up that they may be reclaimed; which prayer will ever be accompanied by a readiness to extend hearty forgiveness to such as are penitent, even as Christ forgave us. (Journal, 1867, pp. 81, 93.)

§ 48. 5. *Mode of Exercise.*

I. That Synod enjoins pastors and Boards of Elders faithfully to carry out the discipline of the Church, and in all cases in the spirit of patience, meekness and love. (Journal, 1870, pp. 88, 89.) 1

II. That our ministers and elders exercise the greatest possible care in the matter of discipline, thoroughly examining every case, and always seeking to adopt such reformatory measures as will be most beneficial to the individual concerned, remembering that whilst we should put away from among us those who persist in evil courses, we should also endeavor to bring back those who have erred. They should also see to it that persons who apply for admission from other Moravian congregations are actually in good standing in the same, and if otherwise, that they first prove the sincerity of their professed penitence by rectifying their former difficulties, as far as lies in their power, before being received. (Journal, 1876, pp. 78, 79.) 2

§ 48. 5. *Erroneous or Unscriptural Views of Doctrine.*

The powers and duties vested in Boards of Elders fully authorize and require them to exercise discipline on those who hold erroneous or unscriptural views on doctrinal points, even to the extent of exclusion from Church-fellowship, if, in their opinion, the case demands it. Of course, the aggrieved party always has the right of appeal to the Provincial Elders' Conference or the Provincial Synod. (Journal, 1870, pp. 88, 89.) 3

§ 48. 9. *Complaints concerning Members.*

Every minister may at once decline to entertain all complaints against any member of a congregation; unless the plaintiff shall agree, in case it be required, personally to confront the accused. (Resolutions, 1855, p. 23, § 13.) 4

§ 50. 2. *Announcement of Exclusion and Readmission.*

Readmission is to be determined by the elders and announced to the Church, as well as exclusion. (Journal, 1867, pp. 81, 93.) 5

§ 51. 2. *Church Rules.*

I. Every individual congregation is bound to profess adherence to a written or printed agreement, containing the fundamental articles of its constitution, consonant with such principles and regulations as have been sanctioned and 6

adopted by the Provincial and General Synods. (Resolutions, 1855, p. 20, I, 1.)

- 1 II. In order to regulate discipline, it is indispensable that each church provides itself with a code of Church-rules duly sanctioned by the Provincial Elders' Conference. (Journal, 1867, pp. 81, 82, 93.)
- 2 III. That this Synod call attention to the rule adopted by the General Synod of 1857, to wit: That every congregation is bound to agree to a certain code of regulations, drawn up in accordance with the general principles of the Church, and containing nothing contrary to the Synodal Results, and direct the Provincial Elders' Conference to require its observance by all our congregations. (Journal, 1867, pp. 95, 102.)
- 3 IV. That every Brotherly Agreement hereafter adopted by any congregation shall contain the following clause: "We hereby express our cordial assent to, and agree to be governed by, the enactments of the General Synod of the Moravian Church, and the Synod of the Province to which our congregation belongs, and to make our conduct as individuals, and our course as a congregation, conform to the principles set forth in the published Results of said Synods." (Journal, 1867, pp. 95, 102.)

Preparation of Church Rules.

- 4 Every congregation is at liberty, either to prepare a *draft* of such an agreement, which, however, previous to its adoption, must be laid before the Provincial Elders' Conference, for its sanction, modification or rejection, or to request the Provincial Elders' Conference to furnish such a draft. In the latter case, the congregation is at liberty to propose amendments, or to reject the whole and substitute a new one, subject, however, to the revision of the Provincial Elders' Conference. A congregation may, if necessary, empower a delegation to confer with the Provincial Elders' Conference on this subject. Whenever the Provincial Elders' Conference shall have expressed their sanction in writing, the agreement is ready to receive the signatures of the members of the congregation. (Resolutions, 1855, p. 20, I, 2.)

Resistance to Church Rules.

- 5 Whoever pertinaciously resists our rules, despises all admonition, exerts an injurious influence, gives well-grounded cause of offense, and becomes the seducer of others,

must necessarily be excommunicated, in accordance with the Apostle's words: "Put away from among yourselves that wicked person," 1 Cor. 5: 13. (Resolutions, 1855, p. 23, § 12, 3.)

Incorporation Does not Free from Rules.

The Provincial Elders' Conference is authorized to withhold its sanction from any proposed charter, which a congregation may be desirous of securing, unless such a charter contains a clause directly asserting that nothing shall be done or taught in the congregation, contrary to the rules and principles of the United Brethren's Church in the United States of North America. (Journal, 1847, § 63.)

Consent of the Provincial Elders' Conference necessary for Incorporation.

None of our congregations shall apply for incorporation by law, without the express assent of the Provincial Elders' Conference. But the latter is authorized to give this assent only when in such act of incorporation due regard has been paid to the principles and obligations [of the Brethren's Church]. (Journal, 1849, p. 26, VIII.)

Annual Reports.

I. That it shall be a rule for the ministers of our Province to transmit to the Provincial Elders' Conference, during the first month of every year, a report of the state and history of their congregations in the year preceding. (Journal, 1867, pp. 95, 102.)

II. That Resolution 14, Appendix I, Journal of 1867, [given above] be re-affirmed, and that the Provincial Elders' Conference be instructed to have said resolution printed upon the sheet transmitted to Pastors for statistical returns. (Journal, 1868, p. 76.)

Church Diary.

I. Every minister should keep a regular Diary of the most important occurrences in his congregation and of his own official acts. (Journal, 1855, p. 132, § 23, 2.)

II. The minister of each congregation shall keep a Diary, which must contain a record of all the public services held in the church, unless such a record is kept in a separate form, and of every event of importance belonging to the history of the congregation. (Journal, 1868, pp. 43, 84.)

Are the Rules Observed?

- 1 That the blanks for the statistical returns annually sent out by the Provincial Elders' Conference, to the ministers of the different congregations, shall contain the following question, which each minister shall be required to answer, in writing, by "Yes," or "No":

"Have you kept your Church-book, Catalogue and Diary according to the Rules adopted by the Provincial Synod of 1868? (Journal, 1868, pp. 43, 84.)

CHURCH RECORDS.

Rules Relating to Church Books.

- 2 I. Each Church-book shall contain the following separate and distinct registers:

A register of *Baptisms of Infants*,
A register of *Baptisms of Adults*,
A register of *Confirmations*.

A register of *Reception of Communicants*, which shall contain the names of all persons received into Church-fellowship as communicants, whether from congregations of the Moravian Church, or from other denominations.

A register of *Marriages*,
A register of *Funerals*.

A register of *Removals and Dismissals*, which shall contain the names of all persons, whether communicants, non-communicants, or children, whose connection with the congregation is dissolved by change of residence, or uniting with other denominations, or by any other cause except exclusion from Church-fellowship.

A register of *Ordinations*.

- 3 II. In making an entry in any of the above registers, the date of the transaction must be placed in a column ruled for this purpose exclusively, on the left hand side of the page.

- 4 III. The signature of the pastor, or of the minister officiating in his stead, must be appended to the record of each transaction.

- 5 IV. Each record under the head of *Infant Baptisms*, must, if possible, contain the following particulars:

The full name of the child; the date of the child's birth; the names of the parents, and the mother's maiden name; a statement whether the parents, or either of them, are members of the congregation; and names of the sponsors, if there are any; the place and occasion of the transaction.

- 6 V. Each record under the head of *Baptisms of Adults*, must, if possible, contain the following particulars:

The full name of the person baptized; a statement whether the person is single, married or widowed; the date and place of birth of the person baptized; the name of the parents of the person baptized, and the mother's maiden name; the place and occasion of the transaction. Other remarks may be appended.

- 7 VI. Each record under the head of *Confirmations*, must, if possible, contain the following particulars:

The full name of the person confirmed; a statement whether the person is single, married or widowed; the date and place of birth; the name of the parents and the mother's maiden name; the place and occasion of the transaction. Other remarks may be appended.

- 8 VII. Each record under the head of *Reception of Communicants*, must, if possible, contain the following particulars:

The full name of the person received into Church-fellowship; a statement whether single, married, or widowed; the name of former Church-connection; the date and place of birth; the place and occasion of the reception, when the same is public. Other remarks may be appended.

VIII. Each record under the head of *Marriages*, must, if possible, **1** contain the following particulars:

The full name of the bridegroom; statement whether the bridegroom is single or widowed; the name of the bridegroom's parents, and the mother's maiden name; the date and place of the bridegroom's birth; the bridegroom's place of residence. The same items respecting the bride.

Each record under this head must be made in the form of a certificate, and must contain the name of some of the witnesses of the ceremony, if any are present, and must also state whether the parties, or either of them, are members of the Church or not.

IX. Each record under the head of *Funerals*, must, if possible, contain the following particulars: **2**

The full name of the deceased; in the case of children, the parents' name, and the mother's maiden name; in the case of adults, statement whether single, married, or widowed; in the case of adults, statement whether the deceased was a communicant of the Church or not; in the case of children, statement whether the parents, or either of them, are members of the Church or not; the age of the deceased; the date of decease, and nature of last illness, or cause of death; the place of interment; the place where the funeral discourse was held. A brief memoir may be appended.

X. Each record under the head of *Removals and Dismissals*, must, **3** if possible, contain the following particulars:

The full name of the person whose connection with the congregation is dissolved; the class—single, married or widowed; whether communicant; destination or name of future Church-connection. Other remarks may be appended.

XI. Each record under the head of *Ordinations*, must contain the **4** following particulars:

The full name of the person ordained; his former occupation or degree; his destination; the place and occasion of the transaction; the name of the officiating bishop or bishops.

XII. Each Church-book must contain an *Index*, the pages of which shall contain eight ruled columns, in which the pages referred to shall be written, there being one column for each register contained in the Church-book. **5**

Rules Relating to the Catalogues.

I. The Catalogue, or list of members of each congregation, shall **6** be written in a book which shall be kept by the minister of the same, exclusively for this purpose.

II. In this book the names of the members of the congregation shall **7** be written under the following divisions and sub-divisions:

1. COMMUNICANTS.

a. Married couples. b. Married men whose wives are not members. c. Married women whose husbands are not members. d. Widowers. e. Widows. f. Single males. g. Single females.

2. NON-COMMUNICANTS.

a. Males over thirteen years of age. b. Females over thirteen years of age.

3. CHILDREN.

a. Boys under thirteen years of age. b. Girls under thirteen years of age.

- 1 III. To names occurring under the first division, [Communicants], the following items must, if possible, be appended, in columns ruled for this purpose:
 1. The birthday.
 2. The father's name.
 3. The time and manner of admission to Church-fellowship, (whether by confirmation, adult baptism, or reception).
 4. In case of the erasure or transfer of the name to another sub-division, the cause of such change.
- 2 IV. To names occurring under the second and third divisions, [Non-communicants and Children], the following items must, if possible, be appended, in columns ruled for the purpose:
 1. The birthday.
 2. The father's name.
 3. The date of baptism.
 4. In case of the erasure or transfer of a name to another sub-division, the cause of such change.
- 3 V. When erasures or transfers of names from one sub-division to another are rendered necessary by confirmation, removal or dismission, exclusion, marriage, death, or advance in age, a cross (X) shall be made in a narrow column, ruled for this purpose, on the left hand side of each page in the catalogue-book, which mark will signify that the name to which it is prefixed no longer belongs to that sub-division, and obviate the necessity of disfiguring the catalogue-book by the common method of making erasures.
- 4 NOTE.—In congregations where the festivals of the youths and maidens, and single-brethren and single-sisters are observed, separate lists of those classes or choirs may be kept, but not in the catalogue-book proper, lest confusion arise in the division of the congregation into the three classes of communicants, non-communicants and children. (Journal, 1868, pp. 39-43, 71, 73, 80, 84.)

Books to be Provided.

- 5 That Church-books and Catalogue-books, ruled like the specimen sheets appended to this report, be kept on sale at the Moravian Bookstore, and that the congregations of this Province be requested to procure the same for their records. (Journal, 1868, pp. 43, 84.)

§ 52, 1. Relations to the Civil Government.

- 6 Our Boards of Elders and Trustees exercise a paternal office only, which consists in brotherly mediation, and can in no wise interfere with the exercise of the magisterial office in the execution of the laws and the punishment of transgressors.
- 7 When disputes arise, the Church-boards, after an impartial examination, should mediate between the parties in a brotherly spirit, and so bring matters to an amicable settlement. But as cases occur, especially in reference to property, which can only be decided by the regular legal authorities, brethren are not prevented from bringing questions of this description before the appointed tribunals. All unnecessary and vexatious litigation is, however, incompatible with the character of a brother. (1 Cor. 6: 1-7.) (Synodal Results, 1848, § 61.)

§ 53. 1. *Secret Societies.*

Whilst this Synod recognizes that differences of opinion 1 prevail amongst Christians upon the subject of secret societies, and whilst it remains for each Province to adopt special rules on this point, our membership is yet earnestly dissuaded from uniting with associations whose objects and principles are designedly concealed from publicity (consult John 3 : 20, 21), and their attention is drawn to the conflict with the principles of Christian faith to which such associations may lead them. *Synodal Results, 1869, Appendix C. 4 : 1879, p. 162.*

§ 53. 2. *Worldly Amusements.*

I. That our ministers be earnestly requested to preach 2 the Word of God more closely and earnestly with reference to the Christian duty of wholly abstaining from all pleasures which are questionable, and of consistency in life and conversation, in order to exert an influence for good by avoiding even the appearance of evil. (*Journal, 1870, pp. 66, 67.*)

II. That the Synod affectionately appeals to the members 3 of the Church, and especially to parents and young people, to abstain from all amusements which interfere with a personal devotion to Christ. (*Journal, 1876, p. 78.*)

§ 53. 3. *Intemperance.*

WHEREAS the following resolution, adopted by the Provincial Synod of 1855, is still in force : (*vide p. 85, Journal of 1855.*) 4

WHEREAS intemperance in the use of strong drink renders men in a special degree the servants of sin, and has involved thousands upon thousands in fearful misery and ruined body and soul; And WHEREAS the General Synod of 1848 (see § 60, *Synodal Results, 1848*), adopted the following, to wit:

"In consideration of the great responsibility which we should bring upon ourselves, as members of a congregation of Jesus, if we were not prepared, as much as lies in us, to prevent the abuse of spirituous liquors in our congregations, and to remove the occasions for that abuse as far as possible, the Synod resolves, that it should be enjoined on all congregation-conferences, and especially on all congregation-wardens, to pay conscientious attention to this point, and strictly to see to it, that, in our congregation-inns, and also on the part of such private persons as have had permission to engage in the trade, sale of liquor be limited to what is actually necessary, and that no sordid consideration of gain be permitted to give occasion to sin in any, whether in or out of our connection. Should the congregation-conferences be unable to prevent the abuse in question, and therefore resolve, supported by the spirit of the congregation, and with due

regard to local circumstances, upon the entire discontinuance of the sale of liquors in their settlements, such a measure has the cordial sanction of the Synod"—Therefore,

Resolved, That this Provincial Synod hereby re-affirms the principles involved in the foregoing preamble and resolution of the General Synod of 1848, and cordially sympathizes with all proper measures for the suppression of intemperance and of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating drinks"—

- 1 And WHEREAS in our opinion the above resolution covers the whole ground which a Synod of our Church can occupy on the subject of temperance, therefore,

Resolved, I. That while our Synod cannot consistently with the truly catholic platform of our Church take any further and more definite action in favor of the cause of temperance, than has already been done, by the action of our General Synods of 1848 and 1857, (*vide* § 78, p. 117 of Synodal Results of 1857, and of our Provincial Synod of 1855, page 85); we do, nevertheless, most cheerfully acknowledge the great amount of good done through the instrumentality of associations formed for the suppression of the sin of intemperance, and we do heartily bid them God-speed, as handmaids of the religion of Jesus, which contains the only true panacea or radical cure for all sin. (Journal, 1861, pp. 53, 63.)

- 2 II. That this Synod recommends to the ministers of those congregations especially where the vice of intemperance in the use of intoxicating drinks prevails, to preach the Word of God with close and special reference to this growing sin, as the only remedy to effect its radical cure.

But in connection with preaching upon this subject, and inasmuch as an extraordinary evil requires an extraordinary remedy, therefore,

- 3 *Resolved*, III. That this Synod advises the pastors of our congregations to submit the matter of intemperance to a congregation council, in order to draw more attention to it; and Synod furthermore suggests, that it would be desirable to raise the standard of public opinion in the congregation, and concentrate the efforts of its members by *associated action* in the spirit of the Church and the Gospel (*vide* 1 Cor. 8: 13; Rom. 14: 21) to root out this dreadful vice, and thus, with the aid of divine grace, turn the subjects of intemperance from the power of Satan unto God. (Journal, 1864, p. 59; 1867, pp. 90, 94.)

- 4 IV. That this Synod is opposed to all *traffic* in intoxicating drinks, and the *use* as a beverage of hard cider, beer, ale, whisky, wine, brandy, gin, rum, patent bitters, etc.,

and would respectfully urge all the members of our Church to abstain therefrom. (Journal, 1873, p. 83.)

V. That this Synod reaffirms all its former recommendations and resolutions referring to the use of intoxicating liquors and the position our Church has taken on the temperance question. (Journal, 1888, p. 115.)

CHAPTER VIII.

THE SERVANTS OF THE CHURCH.

§ 56. 1. *Ministers are not Independent, and owe Obedience.*

I. That Synod re-affirm the rule laid down in § 82 of the 2 Results of the General Synod, 1857 [Results of 1879, § 56, 1], in substance as follows: No minister of the Brethren's Church occupies an independent position, but is accountable for the execution of his trust to the Unity's Elders' Conference, or the Provincial Elders' Conference, to whom he owes obedience. (Journal, 1868, p. 73.)

II. That we solemnly call upon all our brethren in the 3 ministry to search their hearts and try their ways before Him who still cries to each one of the angels of the churches, "I know thy works :" and then to preach the Word of the Cross, and in their own lives to exemplify the holy principles of the Gospel, "holding faith and a good conscience."

III. That this Synod urges the Provincial Elders' Conference to be thorough, firm and faithful in exercising the discipline of the Church upon its ministers. (Journal, 4 1884, pp. 77, 78.)

§ 56. 2. *Congregation Conferences.*

In each congregation there are three Conferences for the 5 management of its affairs: the Board of Elders, the Board of Trustees and the Church-council, which act in conjunction with the pastor. It is the important object of these Conferences to promote the welfare of the congregations. To this end it is requisite that the members be not influenced by selfishness and self-interest, but that sincere love to the Lord and to the congregations, unity of spirit and mutual unreserved confidence bear the sway. Each member has the right, or rather it is his duty, to declare his sentiments freely, according to the best of his judgment: but this should always be done with modesty, and with the respect due to such an assembly.

- 1 To secure freedom of discussion, it is necessary that each member of a Conference may be able to rely upon it, that his sentiments will not be divulged.
- 2 In the larger Conferences, as the Church-conneil and the Board of Trnstees, whenever a resolution of importance is proposed, the opinion of the members present must be taken by voting. In the Board of Elders also, this mode may in some cases be advisable, in order that no member may be prevented by timidity from giving his opinion. But in cases wherein all the members of the Conference cannot feel satisfied with the conclusion of the majority, the matter must be laid before the Provincial Elders' Conference, for decision.
- 3 When a Conference has come to a resolntion, all the members are bound to do their best to carry it out. The rule, sanctioned by experience, must be maintained, that Conferences yield each other mutual assistance and respect, and avoid all interference with one another. While all work together in furtherance of one and the same object, with harmony and brotherly love, there will arise no jealousy, and the words of Scripture will be verified : "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! For there the Lord commandeth the blessing, even life for evermore." Psalm 133: 1, 3. (Synodal Resnlts, 1848, § 67.)

Who are Members of the Church Council.

- 4 In North America all adult brethren are members of the Church-conneil. (Synodal Resnlts, 1848, § 73.)

The Sisters may also be made Members.

- 5 Whenever a Church-conneil expressly desires it, congregations are permitted to admit sisters as full members of the Church-council—such a course being the re-introduction of a former usage among us. (Synodal Results, 1848, § 73.)

General Business Meetings.

- 6 Besides the meetings of the Church-conneil, all the brethren and sisters who are of age may be called together in cases of importance, when it is desirable to ascertain the sense of the whole congregation. (Synodal Results, 1848, § 74.)

Joint Meetings of Church Boards.

- 7 In cases where the Boards of Elders and Trustees are not agreed in opinion, it is advisable that the brethren of

both Boards should meet for mutual consultation. This may also be done at other times, when a matter of importance, or one that requires a speedy adjustment, is to be arranged; and the practice will promote mutual confidence.

These joint meetings, however, do not decide by voting, [that is, by a preponderance of votes]. Should the case occur that the two Boards cannot agree upon a subject, reference should be made to the Provincial Elders' Conference for a decision, with a statement of the grounds of their different opinions. (Synodal Resnlts. 1848, § 70.)

Who are Eligible.

To be eligible as office-bearers, brethren must be full communicant members of the congregation wishing to elect them, and not in arrears for church-dues. [Reference is also had to the requirements of the laws of the State of New York.] (Synodal Results, 1848, §§ 67 to 76, *passim.*)

The Minister and all other Members of Church-boards, bound by the Decisions of the respective Boards.

The members of all Boards of Elders, including their presiding officers, are subject, together with the other ministers resident in the places where such Boards have been established, to these Boards, and are bound to obey their constitutional enactments. In case such enactments are not concordant with the conscientious convictions of a brother, the Provincial Elders' Conference must act as umpire. (Resolutions, 1855, p. 21, II, 1.)

Qualifications for Eldership and Trusteeship.

I. That our congregations, in appointing men to the office of Elders or Trustees, should conscientiously select such as have the needful gifts and grace to assist the minister in his spiritual work, by prayer and exhortation—men whose minds and hearts are in the work of saving souls. (Journal, 1861, pp. 52, 66, 67.)

II. That this Synod would again remind the ministers and Boards of Elders in our congregations of their duty to work together earnestly and faithfully, not only in regard to the temporal affairs of the Church, but also to the spiritual interests of the Lord's people over whom they have been called "to have the rule."

III. That the same office-bearers in the Church should seek out any possible localities in the neighborhood without the means of grace, and supply them at least with the Sun-

day-school and prayer-meeting at stated times, either personally, or through members qualified for such work. (Journal, 1884, pp. 76, 77, 78.)

Two Boards Desirable.

1. I. That the Synod express its judgment to the effect that in each congregation the Board of Elders, charged with the care over the brotherly-agreement, should form a separate body from the "Committee" or Board of Trustees, charged with the secular affairs of the congregation.
2. II. That in the opinion of the Synod, such brethren should be chosen into the Board of Elders, as have the gift of grace for dealing with souls in private.
3. III. That the pastors be instructed before each election of Elders to inform their respective congregations upon the nature of the Elders' office and of the duties required of them, and when the Elders have been elected, they be solemnly introduced into their office in the presence of the congregation.
4. IV. That the Provincial Elders' Conference be instructed to authorize the Bishops to draw up a circular embodying the teachings of Scripture and of the Church on this subject, and that such circulars be issued as frequently as the Bishops may deem requisite. (Journal, 1876, pp. 77, 78.)

§ 57, 1. Privilege of Veto in certain Cases.

5. I. That as often as the appointment of a brother as minister of a city or country congregation has been approved, the Provincial Elders' Conference shall, before the case is finally settled, consult with the Committee of the congregation concerned, and receive its consent to the appointment, in order that mutual confidence may be maintained and furthered, always provided, however, that the Committee act according to its knowledge of things and persons, without calling a meeting of the congregation and learning the opinion of the same. (Provincial Synod, 1817.)
6. II. It being a principle of the Brethren's Church, that a teacher cannot be forced upon a congregation against its will, no laborer, (*i. e.*, minister), can enter upon an office in our "Place Congregations" without the consent of the Elders' Conference [Board of Elders] to whom the congregation has transferred the right inherent in the same. In our city and country congregations, the Committee, in this respect, takes the place of the Elders' Conference in our "Place Congregations." In neither of them, however, is

the congregation itself allowed, either in full or in part, to give an immediate vote on the subject. (Synodal Results, 1818, Chapter IX, A. § 10; Journal, 1881, pp. 52, 104.)

III. Wherever, in accordance with our Constitution as hitherto existing, congregations have had the right to veto the appointment made, that right is not extinguished. (Resolutions, 1855, p. 21, II, 5.)

Privilege of Nomination and Petition.

In case of the occurrence of vacancies, brethren may be named by a congregation, as being in its opinion calculated to fill them, but the Provincial Elders' Conference is not bound to respect such propositions, any further than it may deem proper. On the other hand, every congregation is authorized, in case its confidence in any of its ministering brethren is shaken, candidly to state the fact to the Provincial Elders' Conference, and this body will act in the matter according to its conscientious convictions, after having instituted a thorough investigation.

Conferences, committees, and individuals have petitionary powers with respect to the Provincial Elders' Conference. All petitions directed to this Board must, however, be couched in respectful terms, and evidence a brotherly disposition. In case any complaint against a minister is lodged with the Provincial Elders' Conference he may insist on knowing the name of his accuser. (Resolutions, 1855, p. 21, II, 6.)

§ 57, 5. Retirement from the Ministry.

That in all cases, when, after a trial for a reasonable time, a minister be found to be not adapted to the service of the Church, the Provincial Elders' Conference shall inform him of the fact—and at the end of one year from said notification, all claim on the part of said minister to aid from the funds of said Church shall cease; provided, that nothing contained in this resolution shall be so construed as to prevent the brother considering himself aggrieved from appealing to the Provincial Synod. (Journal, 1864, p. 73.)

§ 58. THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

Moral Responsibility of Students.

I. Should any student leave the Seminary or the service of the Church without having served as teacher, for at least five years, he shall be held under moral obligations to refund the expenses of his education from the time of his entering the preparatory class. (Journal, 1849, Resolution 39.)

- 1 II. That the Synod commends the action of the Faculty of the College and Theological Seminary with reference to the pledge required of new students upon entering said institution.
- 2 III. That the section of the Report of the President bearing on this point be embodied among the statutory resolutions of the Provincial Synod, [namely : "That they pledge themselves in particular to give to the Chnrch at least two years of service for each and every year of free education which they have received; and that in case they fail to enter that service, or leave the ministry of the Moravian Church, except they be compelled to retire by reason of sickness, they will refund the expenses of their education to the amount of at least \$150 for each year of board and tuition that they have received."] (Journal, 1888, pp. 108, 113.)

Faithfulness to be Inculcated.

- 3 Immediately upon entering this class [preparatory to the Theological Seminary] the student is in a solemn manner to be made attentive to the importance and the duties of the calling which he has chosen for himself. If the students enter as *gratuiti*, they are to be reminded that they are *morally* bound hereafter faithfully to serve the Lord and His congregation and not to walk in their own ways. This duty is frequently to be insisted on, and previous to their admission into the Theological Seminary, the students shall be required solemnly to acknowledge that they regard it as their duty. (Journal, 1847, § 98, b ; 1849, Resolutions 28, 37.)

Qualifications of Professors.

- 4 That the Professors in the Seminary must be men of decided piety and literary acquirements, and the President a man of ministerial experience ; and that the spiritual charge over the students belongs to the President, and must be faithfully attended to by him. (Journal, 1855, pp. 95, 109, 110.)

The Location and Present Arrangements of the Seminary.

- 5 1. That an institution be established under the name of "*The Moravian College and Theological Seminary.*"
- 6 II. That the building on Chnrch street in Bethlehem, * * * * be used for the purposes of the institution.
- 7 III. That a fund of \$20,000 be created, to be called "the endowment fund," with the capital coming to this Provincee

in accordance with the resolution of the General Synod of 1857.

IV. That with the interest of this fund such persons 1 shall be educated or assisted, desiring to prepare themselves for service in any of the departments of the Church, as have not the means to pay for their education, and for whose education no other means are provided.

V. That young men wishing to prepare for any profession 2 in life, shall be admitted into the institution, on terms to be fixed by the Provincial Elders' Conference.

VI. That the endowment fund be increased, if possible, 3 by collections; and that every effort be made to augment the annual revenue, by annual collections in the congregations of the Northern and Southern Provinces.

VII. That the institution be under the charge of a President, who shall be at the same time the principal Professor, * * * * * whose relation to the Provincial Elders' Conference and the institution, shall be the same as that of the inspectors of our Church Schools to the Provincial Elders' Conference and the institutions under their care. 4

VIII. That there be two more regular Professors. 5

IX. That the organization of the classes, the course of studies, the arrangements in the college-buildings, and all the other external and internal details of the enterprise, be left to the President and his assistant Professors, subject to the approval of the Provincial Elders' Conference, with the exception of the salaries of the President and Professors, which shall be fixed by the Provincial Elders' Conference only. (Journal, 1858, pp. 56-60; 1864, pp. 60, 63.) 6

X. That the College and Theological Seminary be established on a broader basis, to the end that its sphere of usefulness be enlarged, and its course of instruction be rendered still more thorough. 7

XI. That this Synod recommends to the special attention 8 of the Provincial Elders' Conference the establishment of a separate classical department, preparatory to the course of instruction pursued at the College—either at Nazareth Hall, or at the College at Bethlehem.

XII. That cases of admission, rejection and expulsion be decided by the Faculty only, but in the case of students who are beneficiaries of the Church, the Provincial Elders' Conference shall be consulted. 9

XIII. That the official title of the brother at the head of 10 the College be "President." (Journal, 1864, pp. 60, 61, 63, 65.)

- 1 XIV. That the term of office of the President of the Moravian College and Theological Seminary is nowhere defined; but that the Provincial Elders' Conference be empowered to make and fill vacancies in said office, according to § 65 of the Synodal Results of 1857. (Journal, 1864, p. 75.)

A New Building.

- 2 WHEREAS, The building of the Theological Seminary is unfit and inadequate for the purpose for which it is intended; and,
- 3 WHEREAS, The Church has for a long time felt the necessity for providing a more commodious and suitable building for this her most important institution of learning; and,
- 4 WHEREAS, A Memorial has been presented to this Synod by certain brethren in Minnesota, praying that the Theological Seminary be removed to Gnadenhuetten, Ohio, and that, in accordance with this memorial, the congregation at Gnadenhuetten has offered a suitable site for a Theological Seminary; therefore,
- 5 *Resolved*, I. That a Building Committee of five, of which the President and the Resident Professor shall be members, be appointed by the Chairman at his leisure, which shall in conjunction with the Provincial Elders' Conference inquire into the expediency of disposing of the present building and site, and erecting a new building in some suitable locality.
- 6 II. That in the matter of sites the Committee shall give due consideration to the proposition from Gnadenhuetten. (Journal, 1888, pp. 53, 68, 69.)

Expectations of the Church.

- 7 I. That the Synod desires to impress upon the attention of the Faculty of the College and Theological Seminary, that the Church looks to this institution for the graduation of thoroughly trained and pious candidates for the ministry. (Journal, 1864, pp. 60, 65.)
- 8 II. That the College authorities be directed to encourage and prepare young men to enter the Foreign Mission field. (Journal, 1870, pp. 82, 83.)
- 9 III. That Synod impresses on the minds of the proper authorities in the Moravian College and Theological Seminary, the *absolute necessity* of making adequate arrangements in the same, to prepare our theological students *thoroughly*

in regard to the *German* language, for serving as pastors in such of our congregations in which the holding of divine service in said tongue is required. (Journal, 1870, p. 88.)

IV. WHEREAS, The Committee, after inquiring into the facts of the case, has found the statistics for the last twenty years to be as follows: twenty-four graduates having command of English alone, forty-one of both English and German; for the last ten years, twelve able to conduct services in English only, twenty-four in English and German, the latter being almost double the former in number: therefore,

Resolved, That Synod acknowledges what has been already accomplished with regard to this question, and urges that every effort continue to be made to fit our graduates to preach in both languages. (Journal, 1888, pp. 53, 68.)

Pledge of Office from Professors.

I. That a pledge of office be required from all those who are engaged as teachers and professors in the Moravian College and Theological Seminary.

II. That this pledge consist in the public answer to a series of questions on points of Christian doctrine and discipline. (Journal, 1867, pp. 95, 102.)

Prayer Day for the Seminary.

That the Provincial Elders' Conference be instructed to appoint a day annually when, in all our congregations, special prayers are to be offered to the Great Head of the Church for the College and Theological Seminary. (Journal, 1870, pp. 66, 67.)

Annual Collection.

I. That the Trustees and President be authorized to institute an annual collection in aid of the College and Seminary, and to designate the time for the same. (Journal, 1870, p. 69.)

II. That this Synod acknowledge with gratitude the efforts made by the President, Trustees and Faculty of the Moravian College and Theological Seminary to increase the revenues of the same, and that they be requested to continue the same; and that congregations and individuals, and especially wealthy congregations and wealthy individuals, be invited to respond liberally to their appeals in behalf of the

support of this most important institution of our Province. (Journal, 1868, pp. 95, 120, 121.)

1. III. That the members of our Church in this Province be earnestly requested to increase their gifts for the Theological Seminary, so that the amount annually gathered may reach at least three thousand dollars (\$3,000). (Journal, 1878, pp. 157, 158.)

Connection with Nazareth Hall.

2. I. That the Provincial Elders' Conference, the President of the Theological Seminary, and the Principal of Nazareth Hall, in conjunction devise a plan for an organic connection between Nazareth Hall and the Theological Seminary, and carry out the same as soon as practicable.
3. II. That in carrying out such a plan, Nazareth Hall shall be permitted to apply so much of its profits as it may, without diminishing its annual contribution to the Sustentation Fund, towards the support of such of its students as may have entered with a view to preparing for the Theological Seminary.
4. III. That the Theological Seminary be placed on the same footing, as regards its relations to the Provincial Elders' Conference, as the other educational institutions of the Province.
5. IV. That all legislation of previous Synods conflicting with these resolutions be hereby rescinded. (Journal, 1873, p. 77.)

Use of Tobacco.

6. That this Provincial Synod discountenances the use of tobacco by the students of our Theological Seminary. (Journal, 1878, p. 141.)

Independent Financial Existence.

7. I. That the Synod hereby expresses its grateful appreciation of the proposal made by the Professors of the Theological Seminary : "That, for the time being, all aid from the Sustentation Fund toward the expenses of the Seminary be cut off,"—and that this proposal be accepted, provided, that the educational interests of the Seminary will not suffer thereby. (Journal, 1881, pp. 52, 53, 77.)
8. II. That under existing circumstances, Synod approves the action of the Trustees of the Theological Seminary, in instituting the vacation of four (4) months. (Journal, 1881, pp. 53, 77.)

III. That no clothing expenses be paid by the Trustees 1
of the Theological Seminary. (Journal, 1881, pp. 72, 77.)

IV. That we gratefully recognize the ability and self- 2
sacrificing faithfulness with which the Faculty have con-
ducted the Theological Seminary since last Synod and re-
commend that the institution be continued on the present
independent financial basis. (Journal, 1884, p. 38.)

V. That we earnestly recommend to our ministers and 3
congregations to use greater efforts to induce suitable young
men to enter our Theological Seminary to study for the
Gospel ministry of the Moravian Church. (Journal, 1884.
p. 39.)

VI. That we recommend the Trustees and Faculty to 4
present the cause of the Theological Seminary to the con-
gregations of our Church in person, whenever practicable.
(Journal, 1884, pp. 38, 39.)

VII. That for the information of prospective students we 5
recommend the insertion in the annual circular issued to the
churches, an estimate of the yearly personal expenses to a
student. (Journal, 1884, pp. 38, 39.)

VIII. That congregations and individuals be urged to 6
make themselves responsible for the personal expenses of
such students as actually require assistance, without in any
way decreasing their contributions to the general expense
of the Seminary. (Journal, 1884, pp. 38, 39.)

IX. That, recognizing the liberality of the churches 7
toward the Theological Seminary since last Synod, we urge
yet more earnest efforts for the financial and spiritual sup-
port of this institution. (Journal, 1884, pp. 38, 39.)

*An Act to Incorporate the Moravian College and Theological Semi-
nary, at Bethlehem, Pa.*

WHEREAS, The Church of the United Brethren, (commonly called 8
Moravians), had, for a long time, a collegiate and theological institute
connected with the boarding-school at Nazareth, but in the year one
thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight removed the same to the bor-
ough of Bethlehem, and established in the said borough a College for
the education of male persons in the various branches of science, lit-
erature, and the ancient and modern languages, as likewise a depart-
ment of the same for the training and preparing of young men for the
Gospel ministry :

And WHEREAS, It is deemed by the authorities of said Church, to 9
be advisable and necessary for the more convenient management of
the concerns of said College, to have said College incorporated;

Therefore,

SEC. I.—Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives 10
of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and
it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same

- 1 That the Right Reverend John Christian Jacobson, Bishop, and the Reverend Francis Florentine Hagen, and the Reverend Sylvester Wolle, all of the borough of Bethlehem, duly elected by the Synod of the Northern District of the American Province of the United Brethren, a Board of Directors of the ecclesiastical affairs of said Church in said District, and likewise constituted by virtue of their office, the Board of Trustees of said College, and such other persons as may hereafter be appointed their associates or successors, according to the rules and regulations of said branch of the Church of the United Brethren, be and they are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic, in fact and in law, by the name and style of "The Moravian College and Theological Seminary," and by that name shall be capable of perpetual succession, may sue and be sued, may have and use a common seal, and alter and change the name at pleasure, and shall also be capable to accept and take, by devise, grant, bargain, sale or otherwise, any estate, or property, real or personal, and the same to hold and enjoy, or to sell and convey, lease, or mortgage, as fully and absolutely, in all respects, as any natural person might do. *Provided*, however, That the clear annual income of the estate and properties of said Corporation, exclusive of any lands or tenements that may be occupied by said College for its accommodations, or that of its officers or professors, and exclusive of income from students, shall not exceed the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars.
- 2 SEC. II.—That the Trustees already appointed, or who shall hereafter be appointed in accordance with the fundamental statutes which govern the Church of the United Brethren in said Northern Province of the United States of America, shall have the care and management of said College, and of its estates and properties, and shall have power to make all needful by-laws and regulations for the appointment of competent professors and teachers, for the fixing and payment of all salaries, for the fixing of prices of board and tuition of students, for the studies and exercises of the students, and for the general well-being of said College. *Provided*, That the said statutes, by-laws and regulations shall not be inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of this Commonwealth, or of the United States, or the enactments of the Synod of said Church of the United Brethren.
- 3 SEC. III.—That no misnomer, or misdirection of the said Corporation, in any will, deed, grant, or other instrument of writing, shall vitiate or defeat the same, but that the same shall take effect in the same manner as if said Corporation were rightly named therein. *Provided*, That it is sufficiently described to ascertain the intention of the parties.
- 4 SEC. IV.—That the Trustees, in connection with the Faculty of the College, shall have power to grant and confer such degrees in the liberal arts and sciences, or such branches thereof, to such students of the College, or others, as from their proficiency in learning they may deem justly entitled to such honors, and such as are usually granted by institutions of a similar kind, and to grant diplomas or certificates under their common seal, as may authenticate and perpetuate the memory of such graduation.

JOHN CESSNA,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
G. V. LAWRENCE;
Speaker of the Senate.

Approved, The third day of April, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three,

A. G. CURTIN.

§ 58. 2. Seminaries entitled to Official Publications.

Each of the Theological Seminaries of the Unity shall be 1 entitled (without expense) to one copy of all official publications in the several Provinces. (Synodal Results, 1879, p. 163.)

Private Preparation for the Ministry.

I. That this Synod instructs the Provincial Elders' Conference, in conjunction with the President and Faculty of the Theological Seminary, to arrange a four years' course of study or reading suitable for men desirous of entering the ministry of the Church, whose means and circumstances do not permit them to acquire the necessary education except by private effort. 2

II. That an Examining Committee be appointed by District Synods to examine such candidates previous to the convening of such Synod and report their progress to the Provincial Board. 3

III. That such men, if in the judgment of the Provincial Elders' Conference they prove suitable candidates for the ministry, be licensed to preach during the time of their preparation, but under no circumstances ordained until they have successfully completed their course and passed the required examination. (Journal, 1876, pp. 86, 87.) 4

COURSE OF STUDY.

[N. B.—Those who wish to pursue this Course of Study, must be well acquainted with the common English branches.]

FIRST YEAR.

A.—JULY TO DECEMBER.

1. Rhetoric, (Day's).
 2. Ancient History, Oriental Nations, (Rawlinson's Ancient History).
 3. History of the People of Israel, up to the time of David, (Millman; read Stanley).
 4. Geography of the Bible, (Coleman).
- Write an essay on some subject taken from the History of Israel.*

B.—JANUARY TO JULY.

1. Rhetoric, (Day's).
 2. Ancient History, Greeks and Romans, (Smith's Greece and Rome).
 3. History of the People of Israel, to the destruction of Jerusalem, A. D. 70, (Millman; read Stanley).
 4. Psychology, (Day's; read Haven's Mental Philosophy).
- Essay on some subject taken from the History of Israel.*

SECOND YEAR.

A.—JULY TO DECEMBER.

1. Logic, (read Jevon's Logic); Science Primer Logic, (read Whately).
 2. Moravian History, Ancient Church; (Moravian Manual ; Holmes' or Bost's).
 3. Introduction to books of New Testament, (Horne's Introduction).
 4. Homiletics, (Hoppin's; read Broadus).
- Essay on some subject taken from Moravian History.*

B.—JANUARY TO JULY.

1. Moravian History, Renewed Church; (Moravian Manual ; Holmes' or Bost's; read Jackson's Translation of Spangenberg's Life of Zipzendorf, and Life and Times of Zeisberger).
 2. Introduction to New Testament, (Horne's).
 3. Exegetical Study of the first three Gospels, (Comprehensive Commentary ; read Barnes').
 4. Homiletics, (Hoppin's).
- A Written Sermon.*

THIRD YEAR.

A.—JULY TO DECEMBER.

1. Church History, to the time of the Reformation, (Kurtz's Manual ; read Schaff).
 2. Introduction to Old Testament, (Horne's).
 3. Exegetical Study ; Genesis, (Comprehensive Commentary ; read Bush's Notes.)
 4. Moral Science, (Wayland, or Haven, or Hopkin's Law of Love).
- A Written Sermon.*

B.—JANUARY TO JULY.

1. Church History, from time of Reformation. (Kurtz's Manual ; read D'Aubigné).
 2. Introduction to Old Testament, (Horne's).
 3. Exegetical Study ; Epistle to the Romans, (Comprehensive Commentary ; read Barnes').
 4. Exegetical Study ; Prophet Isaiah, (same as above).
- An essay on some passage of Scripture which is explained in different ways.*

FOURTH YEAR.

A.—JULY TO DECEMBER.

1. Dogmatics ; Theology and Anthropology, (Van Oosterzee's ; read "Why I am a Moravian," and Spangenberg's Idea Fidei Fratrum).
 2. Exegetical Study ; Gospel of John, (Comprehensive Commentary ; read Barnes').
 3. Exegetical Study ; Epistle to Ephesians and 1 Thessalonians, (as above).
 4. Pastoral Theology, (Hoppin's).
- An essay on the Duties of the Ministry.*

B.—JANUARY TO JULY.

1. Dogmatics ; Soteriology and Eschatology, (Van Oosterzee's ; compare Moravian Catechism and Spangenberg).
 2. Exegetical Study ; Jeremiah or some Minor Prophet, (Comprehensive Commentary).
 3. Exegetical Study ; 1 Epistle of John and Epistle of James, (as above).
 4. Pastoral Theology, (Hoppin's).
- An essay on a subject taken from Dogmatics,*

CHAPTER IX.

THE MINISTRY, AND ORDINATION TO THE MINISTRY.

§ 62, 1. *The Presbyterate.*

With young brethren it is advisable to defer this ordination [to the Presbyterate] for one or two years, in order that they may give proof of their qualifications for the office; otherwise it should take place as soon as possible after entering thereon, and, if practicable, in the congregation to the service of which they are appointed. (Synodal Results, 1857, § 34.)

§ 64. *Rule for the Nomination of Bishops.*

That in the nomination of Bishops by the Provincial Synod, as provided for in the Constitution, the choice of the Synod shall be expressed by ballot, and two-thirds of all the votes of members present shall be required for a nomination. (Journal, 1858, pp. 68, 73.)

§ 64. *Assistants to be ordained Deacons.*

That all assistants in preaching the Gospel and administering the Sacraments be ordained Deacons. (Journal, 1864, pp. 74, 76, 77.)

§ 64. *Suspension from the Ministry.*

That it shall be the duty of the Provincial Elders' Conference, when a minister or missionary is convicted of serious moral delinquency, to declare him suspended from the discharge of ministerial functions, and publish the fact in our Church-papers. (Journal, 1881, pp. 99, 100.)

§ 64. (*Note.*) *Questions at Ordinations.*

That at his ordination as Deacon or Presbyter, every minister be required to declare publicly, at the administration of the rite, his belief in the Holy Scriptures as the only rule of faith and conduct, and his adherence to the rules and regulations of the Moravian Church. (Journal, 1861, p. 67; 1864, p. 51.)

§ 65, 1. *Acoluths.*

That it be recommended, according to the provision of the General Synod, that those brethren who have given evi-

dence of their ability and willingness to serve the Lord in the Brethren's Unity, either as instructors of youth, or in other offices of the Church, such as the office of Elders, who, with the consent of the Provincial Elders' Conference, have been appointed assistants to the ministers in the spiritual care of the Church and at the administration of the Lord's Supper, be received as Aeoluths. (Journal, 1864, pp. 74, 76, 77.)

CHAPTER X.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE BRETHREN'S UNITY.

"Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling."—Eph. 4: 3, 4.

"For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, bond or free; and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.—1 Cor. 12: 13.

Introduction.

- 1 The Synod anew expressed its conviction that the government of the Brethren's Unity can rest solely in the hands of our Saviour, as the invisible Head of His Church on earth, and also that we desire to know nothing of any other supreme control. But, although the Lord Himself directs, protects, and rules His Church in general, yet He also makes use of the feeble hands of His servants as instruments for its government, and places watchmen upon its walls, in order that Jernusalem may be built. In like manner, our Brethren's Church can not dispense with such government and superintendence, if all things are to exist in that order and to take that course which He has pointed out to us in His Word.

How this is to be effected is determined by the *Constitution* of the Brethren's Unity as follows :

General Fundamental Characteristics of the Constitution.

- 2 1. The Brethren's Unity, in its entirety, comprises the three Provinces of the Unity—the German, the British, and

the American—together with the entire field occupied by us, in all parts of the world, in labors for the kingdom of God.

2. The supreme government for the whole Brethren's Unity rests in the hands of the *General Synods*, which are composed of the servants of the Unity, the delegates of the Provinces of the Unity, and the missionaries who are called to it. (See § 69.)

3. From one General Synod to the next following the government and supervision of the whole Brethren's Unity are committed to a Board, elected for the purpose, named the Unity's Elders' Conference or Directing Board of the Protestant Brethren's Unity. For the English Province and the American Province, however, the Department of the Unity of the Unity's Elders' Conference alone forms the ruling authority. (See § 76.)

4. The supreme direction of all affairs of the several Provinces of the Unity devolves on the respective *Provincial Synods*, which are composed of ministers and delegates of the Province. (See § 79.)

5. The members of the respective Provincial Synods of the British and North American Provinces elect the respective Provincial Elders' Conferences, whose duty it is to administer the special government of their Provinces, during the period determined by the Provincial Synods. (See § 82.) The American Province is, for the present, divided into two districts, each having a separate Provincial Synod and Provincial Elders' Conference; but the right of these two districts to unite, remains unimpaired.

6. For the German Province the Unity's Elders' Conference is at the same time the Provincial Elders' Conference.

7. The government of the individual congregations devolves on the *Congregation Conferences*, which are organized in different ways in the several Provinces of the Unity. (See § 56.) Undertakings, the eventual responsibility for which attaches to a congregation, always, on that account, require the consent of the congregation authorities. Par-

ticulars regarding Congregation Conferences are to be found in the Synodal Results of the several Provinces.

1. 8. The above is based on the fundamental principle of our Constitution—namely, that no other Church-government exists among us than that which is conferential. (Synodal Results, 1879, § 66.)

A. GENERAL SYNODS.

The Work of General Synods.

2. 1. The ministers and delegates of the Brethren's Unity in Synod assembled are its plenipotentiaries, represent the entire Brethren's Unity, and act in its name. Consequently, consultation on and control of its general affairs necessarily rests with the Synods.
3. 2. The principles which serve as the basis of the Brethren's Unity, and as a rule for its ministers and members, are, so far as their continued validity is concerned, carefully examined, amended, and re-affirmed, and such arrangements are made as are required for the welfare and by the destination of our Unity of Brethren, as a whole.
4. 3. Further, one of the most important objects of the General Synods is the promotion of mutual acquaintance and interchange of views and experiences. (Synodal Results, 1879, § 67.)

Powers of General Synods.

5. According to this statement of the work of General Synods, their duties and business are the following :
 - a. To determine the doctrine of the Church—*i. e.*, to decide all questions which may possibly arise in reference to doctrine.
 - b. To determine the fundamental features of the liturgy.
 - c. To determine the fundamental features of Church-order and discipline.
 - d. To determine what is essential to membership in the Brethren's Church.

- e. To elect Bishops and provide for their consecration.
- f. To supervise the Missions to the heathen and other general enterprises of the Unity, as also to establish principles for the direction of the same.
- g. To superintend the Unity's finances and their administration.
- h. To elect the Department of the Unity and the Department of Missions of the Unity's Elders' Conference, according to § 78, and the directions given for the supply of vacancies in those two Departments.
- i. To settle the principles according to which the General Synods are formed and constituted, as also to fix the time and place of their meeting and the basis of representation at them.
- k. To determine everything that has reference to the general Constitution of the Brethren's Unity and its Church-rules.
- l. To subject the enactments of the Provincial Synods to examination and revision as often as it shall appear necessary, and, in case a Provincial Synod has arrived at some determination which is contrary to the principles or the Constitution of the Unity of the Brethren, to refer it back to the said Synod for alteration.
- m. As the highest Board of Appeal, to give the last and finally-binding decision on all questions that may be laid before it.
- n. To require an account of the way in which general principles of doctrine and of practice have been acted up to in the several Provinces. (Synodal Results, 1879, § 68.)

Members of a General Synod.

1. The following are members of a General Synod :

I. *By Virtue of their Office.*

1

1. The members of the Unity's Elders' Conference.
(See below.)

2. The Bishops of the Brethren's Church.
3. One member of each Provincial Elders' Conference, to be appointed by such Conference.
4. The following brethren, holding Unity's offices :
 - a. The Secretarius Unitatis Fratrum in Anglia.
 - b. The Secretary of Missions in London.
 - c. The Director of the Financial Office of the Unity's Department of Missions.
 - d. The Archivist of the Unity.

1 II. *The Delegates of the several Provinces.*

Nine from each Province, (in the North American Province seven from the Northern District and two from the Southern). All of them must be accredited as delegates in the manner legally valid in the respective countries, with due regard to what is needed to render the certificates valid in foreign countries.

2 III. *Missionaries to be called by the Unity's Elders' Conference.*

In extending to missionaries the call to be voting members of a General Synod, the circumstances of the various mission-fields, and the wishes of the missionaries, are to be as far as possible taken into consideration, the latter by means of confidential votes from the individual missionaries. The number to be thus called is not to be less than four or more than six; but Bishops from the mission-provinces who are in attendance may be included in this number.

- 3 One of the ministers employed in the Bohemian and Moravian work must also be called to the General Synod, as a voting member, by the Unity's Elders' Conference.
- 4 2. Besides these voting members of a Synod, the Unity's Elders' Conference may call to a Synod one or another brother whose presence appears to them desirable, as an advisory member without vote. The Synod is not at liberty to confer on these advisory members the right of voting,

without previously altering the provisions of the Constitution on the subject. (Synodal Results, 1879, § 69.)

Election of Delegates to a General Synod.

1. In regard to the eligibility of delegates to a General 1 Synod the following rules are in force : All brethren are eligible who have for two years been members of the Church, are communicants, and have passed the twenty-fourth year of their age on the day of election.
2. The delegates to the General Synod are representatives of the Provinces, and not of individual congregations, and are consequently elected by the Provincial Synods, and not immediately by the congregations.
3. Definite arrangements for this election are made in each Province of the Unity by the Provincial Synods. Each Province may elect an alternate for each of its delegates.
4. The Provincial Synods must determine in what cases the alternates elected by them shall take the place of the delegates, and furnish the delegates with the necessary authority to call on the alternates. (Synodal Results, 1879, § 70.)

Preparations for a General Synod.

Before every General Synod preparatory Provincial 5 Synods must be held in all the three Provinces of the Unity, in order that each Province may arrive at agreement as to memorials, and the proposals therein contained, on subjects appertaining to a General Synod, and that such subjects, as adopted by the Provincial Synod, may be brought forward by its delegates. It is therefore also the proper course that memorials of this kind should first of all be laid before the Provincial Synod. Yet every member of the Church is at liberty to address the General Synod directly in a memorial. It is, however, to be understood that such memorials alone can meet with the desired attention as bear on subjects within the scope of the duties of a

General Synod; and are not of a purely provincial character. It is also requisite that they bear the names of the writers. (Synodal Results, 1879, § 71.)

Rules of Procedure at a General Synod.

1. As regards the procedure to be observed in the transactions of each Synod, while other regulations are left to the discretion of each Synod, the following have a permanent validity until they have been expressly altered by a synodal resolution :
2. a. All the members of a Synod have an equal right of voting. A majority of votes usually decides, yet the Synod reserves to itself the right in any case, when freedom to do so is bestowed on it, to commit the final decision to the Lord by the Lot.
3. b. Resolutions which involve alterations in the Constitution, require a majority of at least two-thirds of all the votes.
4. c. Agreeably to the brotherly character of our union, it can not be intended that one part of the Brethren's Unity should desire to force on another its own views, and, through the numerical majority of votes, to effect changes, based on such views, in the existing general regulations of our Constitution, in opposition to the preponderating conviction of the representatives of such portion of the Unity. Therefore a resolution of such a kind, even when the majority of the Synod has voted in its favor, can not be considered as binding on the entire Unity, in case a decided protest has been made against it by at least two-thirds of the representatives or delegates of any one Province, the two North American Districts being reckoned as a single Province. It is a matter of course that in this latter regulation neither the Unity's Elders' Conference nor the brethren called by it or present *ex officio*—in short, none except the elected delegates—are taken into consideration.
5. d. The Synod is opened by the President of the Unity's Elders' Conference, and constitutes itself by the election of its President and other officers.

e. After each General Synod a new Synodal Results is 1 compiled according to the directions given by the Synod, and is published by the Unity's Elders' Conference. It must embody the re-affirmed or amended rules and enactments of the previous Synodal Results, together with all new determinations, and must agree with the official Collection of Resolutions, which is compiled during the Synod. This Synodal Results consequently contains the entire body of rules and enactments which are binding on the whole Brethren's Unity until the next General Synod. It is, however, expressly to be borne in mind that those resolutions of the General Synod of 1857 which regulate the Constitution of the several Provincees are still in force, as forming the legal basis of all the Provincial Constitutions, except in so far as said resolutions have undergone formal alterations in such a way as is in accordance with the Constitution. (Synodal Results, 1879, § 72.)

The German Version Decisive.

In all cases of doubt as to the interpretation, the German 2 original is decisive. (Resolutions, 1879, p. 33, 8.)

Expenses of General Synods and their Defrayment.

The expenses of the traveling and maintenance of all the 3 members of the Synod are defrayed from the *Synodal Fund*, formed for the purpose. (See § 85.) After the closing of the accounts of this fund a summarized statement of its income and expenditure is forwarded to the Provincial Elders' Conferences for communication to the congregations. (Synodal Results, 1879, § 73.)

B. THE UNITY'S ELDERS' CONFERENCE.

The Supreme Administrative Board of the Unity.

1. From each General Synod to the next following, the 4 oversight and government of the Brethren's Unity in all those matters which fall within the competency of General Synods, is entrusted to a Board elected according to the rules laid down in § 77—namely, the *Unity's Elders' Conference*.

ence, or Directing Board of the Protestant Brethren's Unity. This Board acts in the name of and in commission from the General Synod, and is responsible to it for all its acts. And to this Board all other ministers and conferences appointed by it or by a General Synod are subordinate and responsible.

- 1 2. According to the directions for the election of the Unity's Elders' Conference, given in § 77, the responsible superintendence of the British and American Provinces of the Unity devolves, however, solely on the Department of the Unity of the Unity's Elders' Conference. In order to secure for the acts of the Unity's Elders' Conference legal validity in relation to the State, a legal power of attorney must be drawn up by the General Synod, by which the Unity's Elders' Conference is accredited as the Directing Board of the Protestant Brethren's Unity. (Synodal Results, 1879, § 74.)

The Organization of the Unity's Elders' Conference.

- 2 1. In the Unity's Elders' Conference there are four Departments, namely :
 - I. The Department of the Unity.
 - II. The Department of Missions.
 - III. The Department of Education and the Pastoral Office.
 - IV. The Department of Finance.
- 3 I.) The Department of the Unity consists of six members, namely, the four members of the Department of Missions, and one member each from the Department of Education and the Pastoral Office, and the Department of Finance. The scope of its functions comprises the affairs of the British and American Provinces, and it is the sole responsible Board of Superintendence and Appeal for said Provinces. (See § 76, 2, below.)
- 4 II.) The Department of Missions consists of four members, and has the control of the Mission work of the Unity.
- 5 III.) The Department of Education and the Pastoral Office consists of four members, has the oversight of the

Schools and Educational concerns of the German Province, and, at the same time, agreeably to its name and its composition, takes part in a special manner in those general interests which concern the German Province.

IV.) The Department of Finance consists of four members, directs the secular concerns of the German Province, and administers the Unity's finances. 1

2. The whole Unity's Elders' Conference is at the same time the Provincial Elders' Conference of the German Province, and is, as such, divided only into three Departments, namely :

I. The Department of Education and the Pastoral Office.

II. The Department of Finance.

III. The Department of Missions.

3. All important subjects, even those which belong more immediately to the individual Departments—as, for example, appointments to office—are settled by the whole Unity's Elders' Conference, with the exception of the matters referred to in 1. I, [above] which belong exclusively to the functions of the Department of the Unity.

4. The Unity's Elders' Conference elects its President and Vice-President from amongst its own members, irrespectively of the Department to which they may belong, and announces the election when completed to the Provincial Elders' Conferences and to the State authorities concerned. All official documents, which are to be laid before the latter by the Unity's Elders' Conference, are to be signed by the President or Vice-President of the Unity's Elders' Conference.

5. Each of the four Departments of the Unity's Elders' Conference elects a President to conduct its business. The election of the President of the Department of the Unity is to be announced by the latter to the British and American Provinces, and the President of this Department shall sign official documents addressed to the said Provinces. Official documents which are addressed to the whole Brethren's Unity shall be signed

either by all the members of the Unity's Elders' Conference, or by the Presidents of the Unity's Elders' Conference and of the Department of the Unity. (Synodal Results, 1879, § 75.)

Rights and Duties of the Unity's Elders' Conference.

1. 1. The rights and duties of the Unity's Elders' Conference, as a body, are :
2. a. The management and superintendence (in accordance with the principles and rules laid down by the General Synod) of the following general concerns of the Unity, namely—the Foreign Missions, the Bohemian work, and the Unity's Funds.
3. b. The representation of the Brethren's Unity in transactions with the European Continental State authorities.
4. c. The Unity's Elders' Conference is moreover empowered to call a General Synod in extraordinary cases, even without having received any distinct commission to this effect from the preceding General Synod.
5. d. This Conference is further empowered, when special and urgent circumstances appear to require an exception to be made to a rule adopted by the Synod, bearing on the general concerns of the Unity above-mentioned, to make such an exception, which, however, will only have temporary validity till the next General Synod. It is, however, presupposed that the Unity's Elders' Conference will only have recourse to such a measure when the circumstances, on conscientious and thorough examination, are found imperatively to require it, and that a separate report regarding such an exception, with a statement of the causes which led thereto, will be laid before the next General Synod.
6. 2. The rights and duties of the Department of the Unity of the Unity's Elders' Conference (see § 75, I.) comprise, in reference to the British and the American Provinces, the following :
7. a. The Department of the Unity has the sole right to

conduct the superintendence of these Provinces, according to the principles and rules established by the General Synods. This Department maintains a connection with the Provincial Synods of the British and American Provinces, as they must forward to it their Synodal Results, and whenever there appears to the Department of the Unity to be anything contrary to the enactments of the General Synod, said Provincial Synods must submit to censure and admonition.

b. The Department of the Unity also stands in constant 1 connection with the Provincial Elders' Conferences, inasmuch as it corresponds with them, and they must forward to it copies of their minutes, as also give any other information which the Department of the Unity may require on subjects falling within the scope of the business belonging to it. In this case also, if there appears to the Department of the Unity anything which is in any respect contrary to the enactments of the General Synod, said Provincial Elders' Conferences must submit to censure and admonition.

c. The Department of the Unity is the standing General Board of Appeal for the British and the American Provinces. 2

Consequently an appeal may be made to the Department 3 of the Unity, in regard to the mutual relations of Provincial Synods and Provincial Elders' Conferences to each other, as also in regard to the mutual relations of the members of a Provincial Elders' Conference to each other—in regard to those general concerns, which stand immediately under the superintendence of the Department of the Unity, and in regard to all constitutional questions touching such powers, rights, and duties of Provincial Synods and Provincial Elders' Conferences as have validity in all the Provinces; it being, however, understood, that, in all or any of those cases, a further appeal may be made, against the decision of the Department of the Unity, to the General Synod. Until, however, the General Synod has pro-

nounced its judgment, the decision of the Department of the Unity is binding on the parties.

1. *d.* The Department of the Unity of the Unity's Elders' Conference is also empowered, in extraordinary cases within the compass of its functions, to induce the Unity's Elders' Conference to call a General Synod.
2. *e.* The Department of the Unity is further empowered, when special and urgent circumstances appear to require an exception to be made to a rule established by the Synod, bearing on the before-mentioned general concerns of the Unity, to make such an exception, which, however, will only have temporary validity till the next General Synod; and to this Department the British and the American Provincial Elders' Conferences must apply, if they wish this to be done. It is, however, presupposed that the Department of the Unity will only have recourse to such a measure when the circumstances, on conscientious and thorough examination, are found imperatively to require it, and that a separate report regarding such an exception, with a statement of the causes which led thereto, will be laid before the next General Synod.
3. *f.* Finally, among the rights and duties of the Department of the Unity are included official visitations in the British and the American Provinces. It belongs to the Department of the Unity alone to determine what brother shall be called upon to perform a visitation, but in making its selection, the Department is not limited to its own members. (Synodal Results, 1879, § 76.)

Election of the Unity's Elders' Conference.

4. 1. At the Commencement of each General Synod the term of office of the previously-existing Unity's Elders' Conference comes to an end. The General Synod appoints a new Unity's Elders' Conference by electing, in the first place, the four members who are, for the period until the next General Synod, to constitute the Department of Missions, and next, accepting as members of the Unity's

Elders' Conference the eight brethren who have been already elected by the previous German Preparatory Provincial Synod as members of the Departments of Education and the Pastoral Office and of Finance of the German Provincial Elders' Conference, for the period till the next German Preparatory Provincial Synod. Lastly, one member of each of the two last-named Departments is added, by election on the part of the General Synod, to the four members of the Department of Missions of the Unity's Elders' Conference, and these six form the Department of the Unity of the Unity's Elders' Conference.

2. After every German Preparatory Provincial Synod **1** the four members of the Department of Missions are under obligation to complete the constitutional number of the Unity's Elders' Conference until the next General Synod, by co-optation of the eight brethren already elected by said German Preparatory Provincial Synod as members of the Departments of Education and the Pastoral Office and of Finance.

3. Should the two members of the Department of the **2** Unity who were elected from the Departments of Education and the Pastoral Office and of Finance be again elected into those Departments at the next ensuing German Preparatory Provincial Synod, they would simply remain members of the Department of the Unity. But in case one or other of those two members of the Department of the Unity should not be again elected into the respective departments above-named, the case is to be treated like a vacancy occurring in the Department of the Unity between two Synods. (See § 78.)

4. In regard to those elections of members of the Unity's **3** Elders' Conference which are mentioned above, as to be undertaken by the General Synod, the following principles hold good :

1. The members of the previous Unity's Elders' Conference **4** are re-eligible.

2. The election requires an absolute majority. **5**

1. 3. Each General Synod must determine whether, and in what way, the Lot shall be used for the confirmation of the election. (Synodal Results, 1879, § 77.)

The Filling of Vacancies in the Unity's Elders' Conference in the Period between two Synods.

2. 1. The General Synod empowers the Unity's Elders' Conference (except when the case mentioned in § 77, 2, occurs) to arrange for elections to fill vacancies in its own body during an inter-synodal period, and with this object, instructs that Conference to collect ballots from the respective Provinces of the Unity, in accordance with the directions given below, and to act according to the same. The Unity's Elders' Conference is to carry the election into execution, having regard to the principles laid down for the use of the Lot—is to draw up a minute to be signed by all the members of the Conference who are present—is to call to the vacant place the brother whom said minute declares to be elected—and is to supply all the voting electoral colleges with a report stating the way in which the votes were distributed, and setting forth the course and issue of the election.
3. 2. Such a vacancy as is here referred to is not permitted to be created by the Unity's Elders' Conference itself, by appointing one of its own members to some other position, unless indeed one of its own members requests a call to another office. But any member of the Unity's Elders' Conference is, as a matter of course, at liberty to resign his office. The Unity's Elders' Conference is also empowered to bring about such resignation of office on the part of one of its members.
4. 3. The supply of vacancies in the Department of the Unity is to take place in accordance with the following directions, which are obligatory on the Unity's Elders' Conference.
5. a. For a member of the Department of Missions there must be collected from each Province seventeen ballots (in

the American Province, thirteen from the Northern District, and four from the Southern), and from the Department of Missions, the Department of Education and the Pastoral Office, and the Department of Finance of the Unity's Elders' Conference, each two ballots, making a total of 57 ballots. Each of these ballots is, if possible, to contain three names.

The distribution of these ballots is left to the decision of the respective Provinces.

These ballots must be determined by an absolute majority in each of the electoral colleges.

b. For a member to be elected for this Department from **1** the Department of Education and the Pastoral Office and the Department of Finance of the Unity's Elders' Conference, the rules given in *a.* are in force; but each ballot must, in this case, mention the name of only one brother belonging to the Department concerned. It is, moreover, to be understood that, in this case, votes can be given only for members of these two Departments.

c. In all elections for the supply of vacancies, the rule **2** holds good, that a brother must be named in at least one-third of all the ballots cast, in order to be eligible. (Synodal Results, 1879, § 78.)

§ 76, 2, *f.* *On Visitations.*

That we deem it important that those who are charged **3** with the administration of the concerns of the Unity, should be, as far as possible, personally acquainted with all its affairs, and that to this end we consider it a duty of the Unity's Elders' Conference to cause frequent visitations to be made by members of its own body in the various Provinces of the Unity. (Journal, 1856, p. 82.)

§ 78, 3, *a.* *Ballots for the Supply of Vacancies.*

That the votes to which the American Province is entitled in filling vacancies in the Department of the Unity **4** of the Unity's Elders' Conference, be apportioned among the ministers by the Provincial Elders' Conference, such apportionment to be in force until the next Synod. (Journal, 1881, p. 85.)

PROVINCIAL SYNODS.

a. GENERAL RULES AND PRINCIPLES.

The Duties and Functions of Provincial Synods.

1. In the Provincial Synods are vested the supreme direction of all provincial affairs, and the power to legislate in regard to them ; but no resolution shall be adopted conflicting with the general principles and rules of the Brethren's Unity, as established by the General Synods.
2. Moreover, Provincial Synods must recognize it as a special duty to require an account as to how far the practice of the congregations of their respective Provinces actually conforms to the principles laid down by the General Synods, and must take care, as far as lies in their power, that this conformity of practice to principle take place, so that these principles and rules may not become a dead letter among us.
3. Accordingly, Provincial Synods have the following special functions :
 - a. To determine the time and place of their meeting, and the mode of their organization (but with the limitation recorded in § 81, 5).
 - b. To oversee and direct the finances of the Province.
 - c. To oversee and direct all educational institutions in the Province.
 - d. To found new congregations and determine the arrangements of the same, and also to alter the constitutions of such as already exist.
 - e. To direct the Home Mission and Diaspora work in the Province.
 - f. To direct and superintend all publications in the Province, authorized and issued by the Provincial Synod or the Provincial Elders' Conference, with proper regard to the existing principles laid down in reference to doctrine and ritual.
 - g. To hear and redress complaints and grievances.
 - h. To elect the entire Provincial Elders' Conference, or a part of that body, in accordance with the rules contained

in § 75 of the Results of the General Synod [which refers to the constitution of the Provincial Elders' Conference of the German Province], and in accordance with the rules laid down by the respective Provincial Synods.

i. To elect their delegates to the General Synod (*vide* § 70, and the rules of the respective Provinces).

4. The Provincial Synods shall determine what special **1** additional functions each Province will assign to its Provincial Synods, and what rules it will adopt with regard to membership, as well as with regard to defraying the expenses of the Synods.

5. Just as the resolutions of a General Synod are binding on the whole Brethren's Unity, and on all Boards, congregations, ministers and individual members of the same, so also the resolutions of a Provincial Synod are binding on all Boards, congregations, ministers and individual members of the Province concerned. When, however, a Provincial Synod has exceeded its powers, or when a difference of opinion arises, as to whether such is the case or not, the decision rests, in the German Province with the Unity's Elders' Conference, and in the British and the American Provinces with the Department of the Unity; but in all Provinces with the right of final appeal to the General Synod.

6. It is left to the individual Provinces to determine the **3** details with regard to the organization of their Provincial Synods; and the rules are contained in the Provincial Synodal Results. (Synodal Results, 1879, § 79.)

**b. PROVINCIAL CONSTITUTION, ADOPTED 1856 ;
APPROVED 1857.**

I. *Special Incumbencies of the Provincial Synods of the Northern District of the American Province.* **4**

a. To fix the time and place of meeting for the next Provincial Synod; but in case of emergency the Provincial Elders' Conference may convene the Provincial Synod at an earlier day.

- b. To determine from time to time the number of delegates which each congregation shall be entitled to send to such Synods.
- c. To elect the delegates which the Provincee is entitled to send to General Synods.
- d. To elect an Executive Board, to be called the Provincial Elders' Conference, consisting of such number of members as the Provincial Synods may, from time to time, determine, to be chosen from among the ordained ministers of the Church.
- e. To examine and direct all financial matters of the Provincee, and prescribe rules for their management.
- f. To have the oversight and direction of all the educational institutions of the Provincee.
- g. The regulation and organization of congregations, and the general direction of the Home Missions of the Provincee.
- h. To direct and control all Church publications in the Provincee, subject to the established doctrine and liturgy.
- i. To prescribe the mode of nominating Bishops.
- k. To hear and redress complaints and grievances, and generally to direct all matters which belong to the government of the Church in the Provincee, and to adopt such rules and regulations concerning the same, as do not encroach upon the incumbencies of General Synods. (Jourrnal, 1856, pp. 62, 63, 64; Synodal Results, 1857, § 54, A. pp. 50, 51.)

1 *Note.*—By way of explanation to *i.* it is to be observed: The object of this resolution does not go farther than to secure to the Provincial Synod the right of nomination, on occasion of the appointment of Bishops for this Province. It implies that neither a General Synod nor the Unity's Elders' Conference can appoint a brother as Bishop for this Province, without his having been previously proposed by the Provincial Synod. (Synodal Results, 1857, § 54, A. *Note.*)

II. Members of Provincial Synods.

The following are members of the Provincial Synod of 1
the Northern District of the American Province:

- a. The members of the existing Provincial Elders' Conference.
- b. All Bishops residing in the District, whether in actual service or not.
- c. All ordained ministers in the District who are in actual service, either in the congregations or in the various educational institutions.
- d. The delegates from the several congregations of the Brethren in the District.
- e. The members of the Unity's Elders' Conference or their delegates, the delegates of the several Provinces of the Unity, the financial agent of the Unity's Elders' Conference in the Province, and such other brethren as the Provincial Synod may determine upon, shall be entitled to seats (as advisory members, but without a vote. (Journal, 1856, pp. 62, 64, 74, 75. Synodal Results, 1857, § 55, A. pp. 52, 53.)

Additional Article.

That the following article be added to the Constitution of 2
the Church of the Northern American Province :

"Any proposed alteration in the Constitution, as the same is set forth in the Results of the General Synod of 1854, and in so far as alterations in the Constitution are within the power of the Provincial Synod, shall be referred to a Committee of nine, to be elected by ballot; and when this Committee shall have reported upon the proposed alteration, the same shall be read, as reported, shall be discussed in Synod, and shall then be voted upon on three several days, and shall be considered as adopted only in case, at each reading and voting, three-fourths of the members present vote in its favor." (Journal, 1861, pp. 57, 68.)

c. PROVINCIAL BY-LAWS.

§ 79, 3, a. *Organization of the Provincial Synod.*

- 1 I. The Provincial Synod shall be opened by the President of the Provincial Elders' Conference, but shall organize by electing its own officers, the President to be chosen from among the Bishops of the Province, if any be in attendance. (Journal, 1856, pp. 63, 64. Approved July 25, 1857; but omitted by oversight in the Results of 1857.)
- 2 II. That this Synod recognizes that Resolution of the Synod of 1856, afterwards approved by the General Synod of 1857, that the Provincial Synod of the Northern District of the Moravian Church in North America be limited in her choice of President of the Provincial Synod, to the Bishops of the Church, who may be present, as constitutional and binding. (Journal, 1864, p. 6.)

§ 79, 3, a. *The Provincial Synod.*

- 3 I. That the Provincial Synod shall be convened every five years. (Journal, 1888, pp. 64, 72.)
- 4 II. That the next Provincial Synod shall be convened in the year 1893, unless the Provincial Elders' Conference decide to call it at an earlier date.
- 5 III. That the Provincial Elders' Conference be directed to fix the day and place of the next meeting of the Provincial Synod.
- 6 IV. That the invitation of the congregation at Lancaster to hold the next meeting of the Provincial Synod at Lancaster, Pa., be commended to the favorable consideration of the Provincial Elders' Conference. (Journal, 1888, pp. 90, 110.)
- 7 V. That [the invitation of the Delegates and Pastors of the Church at Bethlehem to hold the next meeting of the Synod at Bethlehem be] referred to the favorable consideration of the Provincial Elders' Conference. (Journal, 1888, pp. 112, 113.)

Reduction of Membership.

- 8 That a Committee of three be appointed to devise a plan by which a reduction of the membership of the Provincial Synod may be effected, to be reported to the next Synod. (Journal, 1888, p. 89.)

§ 79, 3. i. The Election of Delegates to the General Synod.

- I. That the seven delegates be voted for on one ticket. 1
- II. That the seven alternates be voted for on one ticket, 2
and that they rank according to the order of ballots and to
their majorities.
- III. That in case two or more have the same majority 3
they draw lots.
- IV. That a majority of the votes cast be necessary to a 4
choice. (Journal, 1888, pp. 64, 76.)

§ 79, 4. Basis of Representation.

That in the election of delegates to the Provincial 5
Synods, the number of the communicant members in the
several congregations on the New Year preceding said
election shall be taken as the basis of representation at the
Synod, and a certified copy of said number, signed by the
minister and the Church Committee or Board of Elders,
shall be sent in to the Provincial Elders' Conference prior
to the holding of the Synod. (Journal, 1858, pp. 68, 72.)

Number of Delegates.

I. That each congregation having less than 150 com- 6
municant members shall send one delegate; each congre-
gation having 150 communicants and less than 300, two
delegates; each congregation having 300 communicants
and less than 500, three delegates; each congregation hav-
ing 500 communicants and less than 700, shall be entitled
to four delegates; each congregation having 700 communi-
cants and less than 900, shall be entitled to five delegates;
each congregation having 900 communicants and less than
1100, shall be entitled to six delegates; each congregation
having 1100 communicants and less than 1300 shall be en-
titled to seven delegates; each congregation having 1300
communicants and less than 1500, shall be entitled to eight
delegates; and for congregations having 1500 communi-
cants or more, the same ratio between communicant mem-
bers and delegates shall be observed. (Journal, 1858, pp.
68, 72; 1888, pp. 27, 39.)

II. That when two or more congregations which unite in 7
the support of the same pastor, shall be admitted to the
class of congregations entitled to lay representation at
Provincial Synods, the number of delegates to which such
affiliated congregations are entitled shall be determined
upon the basis of the communicant membership of the
largest of these congregations. (Journal, 1884, pp. 52, 59.)

Election of Delegates.

1. I. That in the election of delegates to the Synod of this Province, the several congregations shall be at liberty to determine for themselves what qualifications shall be necessary to entitle the individual members to the privilege of voting, provided, however, that no person shall be allowed to vote for delegates who are not regular communicant members in good standing.
2. II. That elections of delegates to Provincial Synods shall be by ballot, and a majority of all the votes cast shall be necessary to a choice; should there be a tie between candidates, a new election shall be held.
3. III. That delegates shall be furnished with certificates of election signed by the officers of the meeting at which the election is held, or other proper authorities presiding over it, which certificates shall state that the delegate was elected by a majority of votes. (*Journal*, 1867, pp. 63, 65.)
4. IV. That the Provincial Elders' Conference is directed to send out printed blank certificates of election of delegates to the Synod, along with the circulars appointing the election, said certificates, in each case, to be filled out by the proper officers. (*Journal*, 1884, pp. 29, 30.)
5. V. That no one shall be eligible as delegate of any congregation who is not a resident communicant member, in good standing, of the same. (*Journal*, 1873, p. 64.)
6. VI. That the circulars of the Provincial Elders' Conference, issued for the election of delegates, shall include a copy of the above resolutions in full. (*Journal*, 1867, pp. 63-65.)

Right to Representation.

7. I. That no congregation before it is self-supporting shall be entitled to lay representation at Provincial Synods. (*Journal*, 1876, p. 64.)
8. II. That the right of any congregation to lay representation in Provincial Synods, shall be contingent upon its providing for an actual and adequate salary of its minister and for the necessities of its church establishment, either from the actual contributions of its lay membership, or from the income of its own church funds, without any fixed or regular aid out of the general funds of the Church, during the interval between the previous Synod and the Synod about to convene: *Provided*, however, that this provision shall not refer to the first application of congregations for representation, which shall be accorded by special act of Synod. (*Journal*, 1881, pp. 49, 57, 84.)

III. That applications for lay representation in Synod **1** be hereafter made according to a prescribed form, the blank for which shall be prepared by the Provincial Elders' Conference. The blank shall be filled up with explicit statements in regard to :

a. The indebtedness resting upon the congregation at the time of the application.

b. The amount of salary actually paid the pastor.

IV. That such formal application must have been **2** adopted by a church council, regularly called, and must be signed by the officers of said church council, as well as by the Elders and Trustees of the congregation before its presentation to the Synod. (Journal, 1884, pp. 50, 52.)

V. That any congregation ceasing to provide for the **3** support of its minister, and for the necessities of its church establishment, shall thereby be returned directly to the care and charge of the Provincial Board of Church Extension. (Journal, 1878, pp. 150, 152.)

Ordained Home Missionaries are Full Members of Provincial Synods.

That all our ordained Home Missionaries in active service shall have a vote at this and all future Provincial Synods ; and that, as to their expenses (when attending Synod), they shall be placed on the same footing with all other ministers ; and that all former resolutions or parts of resolutions of Synods, conflicting with this resolution, be hereby rescinded. (Journal, 1864, pp. 41, 42.) **4**

Expenses of Provincial and District Synods.

I. That the expenses of future Synods be borne by the **5** congregations of the Province. (Journal, 1868, pp. 94, 120.)

II. That hereafter every congregation be required to **6** make up its contribution for the expenses of Provincial [and District] Synods prior to the convening of the same.

III. That the above resolution [II] be inserted in the **7** circular sent to the congregations by the Provincial Elders' Conference, announcing the time and place for the meeting of the Synods. (Journal, 1873, pp. 81, 82.)

IV. That for the defrayment of the expenses of Provincial and District Synods the self-sustaining congregations shall contribute at the rate of 20 cents per annum for each communicant member and the Home Mission congrega-

tions at the rate of 15 cents per annum for each communicant member; these assessments to be remitted annually to the Provincial Treasurer. (Journal, 1888, pp. 65, 74.)

- 1 V. That the annual contributions for Synodal Expenses shall be paid on or before April 30. (Journal, 1888, p. 106.)
- 2 VI. That only the necessary railroad fare, with subsistence, be allowed the members who attend this Synod and future Synods. (Journal, 1878, p. 108.)
- 3 VII. That the expenses of advisory members of the Provincial Synods hereafter to be held, be not paid by the Provincial Synod. (Journal, 1856, p. 98.)
- 4 VIII. That the balance remaining in the hands of the Committee on Synodal Expenses, after all the expenses of the Provincial Synod shall have been met, shall be paid over to the Provincial Treasurer for future District and Provincial Synodal Expenses. (Journal, 1888, p. 110.)

§ 79, 5. Promulgation of Resolutions.

- 5 That the pastors be and are hereby instructed to call a church council as soon as practicable after the adjournment of each Synod, for the purpose of communicating the enactments of the same. (Journal, 1878, p. 166.)

The Provincial Digest.

- 6 I. That the collection of rules and regulations, including those of the present Synod, be printed under the title of "The Provincial Digest."
- 7 II. That a copious index be prepared to facilitate reference.
- 8 III. That "The Provincial Digest" be distributed gratis and liberally in our congregations. (Journal, 1881, pp. 104, 105.)
- 9 IV. That the "Provincial Digest" is herewith made the Law-book of the Province in so far as it agrees with the Official Journals of our General and Provincial Synods. (Journal, 1884, pp. 26, 58, 59.)
- 10 V. That as soon as possible after the adjournment of this Provincial Synod, there shall be published revised editions of the Provincial Digest and Provinzial Ordnung, with such omissions and additions as are rendered necessary by the legislation of the Provincial Synods of 1884 and 1888. (Journal, 1888, pp. 107, 108.)
- 11 VI. That the cost of printing the new and revised editions of the Provincial Digest and the Provinzial

Ordnung be paid out of the balance of the money contributed to pay the expense of the present Synod. (Journal, 1888, p. 110.)

VII. That a Committee of three be appointed to sit during the recess of Synod for the purpose of codifying the laws and rules of the Provincee, the Committee to report to the next Provincial Synod. (Journal, 1888, pp. 37, 62.)

VIII. That said Committee make such grammatical and rhetorical changes as may be necessary. (Journal, 1888, pp. 91, 115.)

§ 70, 6. Duty of Members to Attend.

That it shall be the duty of all who are members of a Synod to attend the same; or, if prevented, to send a proper explanation of their absence. (Journal, 1873, p. 64.)

Reports of Officers and Boards.

I. That among the first items of business to be submitted to each Synod shall be, Reports of all officers and bodies appointed by Synod to act during the recess between one Synod and the next. (Journal, 1856, p. 60.)

II. That in future a statement of the financial affairs of the Sustentation Diacony and of the Church Schools under its charge, be presented at the meeting of every Provinceial Synod. (Journal, 1856, pp. 68, 69, 86, 87.)

Reports of Congregations.

I. That all Reports of congregations be submitted IN WRITING, duly signed by the minister or delegates of the congregation. (Journal, 1864, p. 79 ; 1867, p. 50.)

II. That in order to secure more uniformity in the reports from the congregations, the following series of questions or topics be adopted by Synod, to serve as a guide to pastors in the preparation of their reports :

a. State the number of communicants and the average annual rate of increase or decrease for the past three years.

b. State the number of Sunday services, their character and in what language they have been held.

c. State as nearly as possible the average number of hearers, what proportion of them are non-members, and what is the ratio of attendance of males and females.

d. What weekly services are held, and how attended.

e. Which of the Church festivals, and distinctively Moravian festivals, are held.

- f.* How is the Monthly Prayer Meeting attended, and is there a collection for Foreign Missions taken up in connection with it.
 - g.* State the condition and attendance at the Sunday-school, and how many sessions are held each Sunday.
 - h.* What organizations for Missions (Foreign and Home), and benevolent or other causes, exist in the congregation.
 - i.* What, if any, method of organization or procedure for promoting mutual fellowship, or of assisting the pastor in the care of souls, especially of the young, exists in the congregation.
 - j.* What fields of Christian labor, such as preaching, Sunday-schools, visitation on the part of the laity, if any, have been established in the vicinity of the congregation, or are supported as a branch of the same.
 - k.* Is the congregation divided into districts or classes, and to what extent have any systematic attempts been made to call out the activity of the laity in these fields of labor?
 - l.* State the average amount of contributions per member to all causes; state the results of the "systematic beneficence" plan, if it is in operation.
 - m.* Is the parsonage furnished?
 - n.* Is the salary sufficient, and is it paid regularly; what portion of it is paid from church funds, and what is the number of contributing members?
 - o.* What prospect, if any, is there for the extension of the work in your city, town, or district?
 - p.* Have you, your Elders and Trustees, and your congregations complied with the resolutions and enactments of Provincial Synod?
 - q.* Which of the enactments of last Synod have not been complied with by your congregation?
 - r.* What is the general spiritual condition of your congregation?
 - s.* How many communion services do you hold annually, and what is the average annual attendance at the general communions?
 - t.* State the proportionate attendance upon the English and the German or Skandinavian services which you hold, and the number of these services.
- (Questions *a* to *o*, Journal, 1873, pp. 63, 64; questions *p* and *q*, Journal, 1878, pp. 139, 166; question *r*, Journal, 1884, pp. 76, 77; questions *s* and *t*, Journal, 1888, pp. 98, 111.)

- 1 III. That these questions or topics be printed and sent by the Provincial Elders' Conference triennially to all the pastors of the congregations of the Province. (Journal, 1873, pp. 63, 64.)
- 2 IV. That hereafter in giving reports of their congregations, pastors shall hand in to the Chairman of the Committee on the State of Religion on separate slips brief answers to the questions or topics now laid down as a basis of their reports, and that blanks prepared for this purpose be sent to each pastor, previous to the meeting of Synod, by the Provincial Elders' Conference.
- 3 V. That every congregation shall have the opportunity to make other statements with regard to its spiritual or temporal condition or special experiences to Synod, being limited in time to five minutes. (Journal, 1881, pp. 105, 106.)

Sermons before the Synod.

I. That at each Synod a brother be appointed by the President to deliver before the next Synod a sermon, or address, on any subject connected with the history, principles, ritual, or polity of the Moravian Church; the Provincial Elders' Conference to have power to find a substitute, if necessary. (Journal, 1861, p. 68.)

II. That in the future a Synodical sermon be preached in each language. (Journal, 1876, p. 63.)

Advisory Members.

That when ministers of sister Churches or delegates from the Synods of other Churches attend the Synod, they may, on motion, be constituted advisory members. (Journal, 1864, p. 49.)

RULES OF ORDER OF THE PROVINCIAL SYNOD.

That the rules of order, as amended, be made the Rules of Order of the Provincial Synod. (Journal, 1888, p. 41.)

They are as follows:

DUTIES AND PRIVILEGES OF THE PRESIDENT.

RULE 1.—It shall be the duty of the President to preserve order, and to endeavor to conduct all business before Synod to a speedy and proper result. He shall state every case properly presented to Synod, and before putting it to vote, shall ask, "Is the Synod ready for the question?" He shall announce all votes and decisions.

RULE 2.—In case the Synod shall be equally divided on any question, it shall be considered lost.

RULE 3.—The President may speak to points of order in preference to other members of the Synod; and shall decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Synod by any member, which appeal shall always be in writing.

RULE 4.—When an appeal is made from the decision of the President, he shall put the question thus: "Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the Synod?"

RULE 5.—The President shall appoint all Committees, unless the Synod shall otherwise direct.

RULE 6.—It shall be the duty of the presiding officer, and the privilege of any member of Synod, to call a member to order, who violates an established Rule of Order.

RULE 7.—The name of the brother offering the resolution, proposition, or amendment, shall be entered upon the Journal, by the Secretary.

RULE 8.—The Secretary shall enter upon the Journal every resolution or proposition submitted to the Synod, or report made by a Committee, in the words in which it was submitted by the mover, or presented by the Committee; also all amendments offered, whether adopted or rejected; and before the final vote is taken on the resolution, proposition, or report which may have been amended, it shall again be entered in the words on which the final vote is taken, unless the amendments can be readily supplied from the Journal without such re-entry.

MOTIONS.

RULE 9.—A motion must be seconded, and afterwards repeated from the chair, or read aloud, before it is debated. A motion shall be reduced to writing, if any brother require it.

RULE 10.—All resolutions shall be submitted in writing.

RULE 11.—Any brother having made a motion, may withdraw it with leave of his second, before it is debated, but not afterwards without leave of the Synod.

RULE 12.—A motion to amend an amendment shall be in order, but to amend an amendment to an amendment shall not be entertained.

RULE 13.—An amendment destroying, or altering the intention of a motion shall be in order; but an amendment relating to a different subject shall not be in order.

RULE 14.—On an amendment to "strike out and insert," the paragraph to be amended shall first be read as it stands, then the words proposed to be struck out and those to be inserted, and finally the paragraph as it would stand, if so amended.

RULE 15.—A call for a division of the question can only be granted when the division called for will leave distinct and entire propositions.

DEBATE.

RULE 16.—When a member speaks, or offers a motion, he shall rise in his place, and respectfully addressing the Chair, confine himself to the question under consideration.

RULE 17.—When a member is called to order, he shall take his seat until the point is determined.

RULE 18.—When two or more members rise to speak at the same time, the presiding officer shall decide who is entitled to the floor.

RULE 19.—While a brother is speaking, no one shall interrupt him except for the purpose of calling him to order, or asking of the presiding officer leave to explain. A brother allowed "to explain" shall only have the right to explain an actual misunderstanding of language, and is strictly prohibited from going into debate on the merits of the case.

RULE 20.—For any brother in speaking to impeach the motives of a fellow-member, or treat him with personal disrespect, or pass between him and the Chair while he is speaking, shall be a violation of order.

RULE 21.—Any conversation, by whispering or otherwise, which is calculated to disturb a brother while speaking, or hinder the transaction of business, shall be a violation of order.

RULE 22.—In the discussions, no one shall speak more than three times on any one question.

PRIVILEGED QUESTIONS.

RULE 23.—When a question is before the Synod, the only motions in order shall be: 1st, to adjourn; 2d, the previous question; 3d, to lay on the table; 4th, to postpone indefinitely; 5th, to postpone to a definite day; 6th, to refer; 7th, to divide; or 8th, to amend: to take precedence as herein arranged.

RULE 24.—When the previous question is moved, and sustained by five other members, it shall be put in this form: "Shall the main question now be put?" If this is carried, all further motions, amendments, and debates shall be excluded, and the question be put without delay. If amendments are pending, the question shall first be taken on them in regular order. It shall not be in order to reconsider the agreement to take the previous question.

RULE 25.—When a question is postponed indefinitely, it shall not come up again during the sitting of the same Synod; and when laid on the table it can only be taken up again on motion.

ADJOURNMENT.

RULE 26.—A motion to adjourn shall always be in order, except, 1st, when a member is in possession of the floor; 2d, when the yeas and nays are being called; 3d, when the members are voting; 4th, when adjournment was the last preceding motion; or, 5th, when it has been decided that the previous question shall be taken.

RULE 27.—A motion to adjourn can not be amended; but a motion to adjourn to a given time may be, and is open to debate.

RULE 28.—An adjournment to a subsequent day lays the matter under consideration on the table, whence it may be taken up at any time on motion.

QUESTIONS NOT DEBATABLE.

RULE 29.—1. A motion to adjourn, when to adjourn simply. 2. A motion for the previous question. 3. A motion to lay on the table, when claiming privilege over another motion. 4. A motion to read a paper. 5. Questions of order whilst the previous question is pending. 6. Questions of order when not appealed from the decision of the President.

READING OF PAPERS.

RULE 30.—The reading of any paper called for, relating to the subject under debate, shall always be in order.

TAKING THE VOTE.

RULE 31.—When the presiding officer has commenced taking a vote, no further debate or remark shall be admitted, unless a mistake has been made; in which case the mistake shall be rectified, and the presiding officer shall recommence taking the vote.

RULE 32.—The yeas and nays upon any question may be called for by two members, and when so called, shall be taken and entered on the Journal. They may be called for at any time before the announcement of the vote by the Chair.

RULE 33.—In all elections by ballot, a majority of the whole number of votes cast shall be necessary to a choice, except in cases when Synod shall determine two-thirds to be necessary.

RULE 34.—In voting by yeas and nays, all present must vote, unless excused by the Synod. A motion to excuse shall be decided without debate.

FILLING BLANKS.

RULE 35.—When any blank is to be filled by the names of persons, a vote shall be taken on the names in the order of their nomination; but when a blank is to be filled by any sum of money or time proposed, the question shall be first put on the largest sum, and the most remote time.

RECONSIDERATION.

RULE 36.—A question may be reconsidered at any time not later than the day after it was decided; but a motion for reconsideration being once made, and decided in the negative, shall not be renewed.

RULE 37.—A motion to reconsider must be made by a member who voted in the majority. No question shall be reconsidered more than once; nor shall a vote to reconsider be reconsidered.

COMMITTEES AND THEIR REPORTS.

RULE 38.—The Standing Committees of the Synod shall be:

1. On State of Religion.
2. On Church Government.
3. On Education.
4. On Finance.
5. On Publications.
6. On Discipline.
7. On Ritual and Worship.
8. On Foreign Missions.
9. On Home Missions.
10. On Bohemian Mission.
11. On Minutes of Previous Synods.
12. On Devotional Exercises.
13. On Synodal Expenses.
14. On Fraternal Relations and Correspondence.
15. On Rules of Order.

The number of members of each of these Standing Committees shall be determined by each Synod.

RULE 39.—The Provincial Elders' Conference shall be a Standing Committee on Credentials; whose duty it shall be, previous to the meeting of Synod, to procure the credentials of the delegates of the different congregations, and to report immediately after the opening exercises of the Synod.

RULE 40.—The brother first named on the appointment of a Committee, shall be chairman of the same, and shall call the Committee together at such time and place as he may select; but when thus convened, any Committee may elect its own chairman and secretary.

RULE 41.—All reports of Committees, except reports of progress, shall be made in writing, and signed by a majority.

RULE 42.—When a majority report is followed by a report from the minority of the Committee, the former, after being read, shall lie upon the table until the latter is presented, after which, on motion, either may be considered.

RULE 43.—When a report has been read, it shall be considered as properly before the Synod, without a motion to accept.

RULE 44.—Except with the unanimous consent of the members present at any session of the Synod, the Reports of none of the Standing Committees of the Synod shall be taken up for consideration until the session next succeeding that in which said Report was presented and read in the Synod.

RULE 45.—Every resolution presented to Synod shall, if required by any member, be translated into the German language before action is taken thereon.

RULE 46.—No member shall be allowed to return home before final adjournment, except on leave of the Synod.

RULE 47.—No motion or resolution appropriating any of the funds of the Province, or affecting the expenditures of the same, shall be acted on by Synod until it shall have been considered and reported upon by the Committee on Finance.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

RULE 48.—After the organization of Synod, the following shall be the order of business:

1. Presentation of reports of the Provincial Elders' Conference, and of all other boards, officers or agents, appointed by previous Synods to act during the recess between Synods.
2. Presentation of memorials or communications from the Churches of the Province.

3. Presentation of memorials or communications from individuals.
4. Presentation of reports of Pastors or Delegates, on the State of Religion.

After the foregoing are disposed of, the regular order each day, unless otherwise directed by Synod, shall be :

1. Reports of Standing Committees.
2. Reports of Special Committees.
3. Petitions, memorials, or resolutions from members.
4. Other general business.

PROTEST.

RULE 49.—When one or more members desire to protest against a resolution or other act of Synod, and to have this protest inserted on the Journal, he or they shall, within two Synodal days, present it in writing, with his or their name or names affixed, to the Secretary of the Synod, to be by him read before the Synod and entered on the Journal.

ALTERATIONS OF THE RULES.

RULE 50.—The rules may at any time be altered, amended, or suspended, by a two-third vote of the members present.

THE PROVINCIAL ELDERS' CONFERENCE.

a. GENERAL RULES AND PRINCIPLES.

The Supreme Executive Boards of the Individual Provinces.

The supreme control and administration of all matters 1 which concern the Province as such, is committed to the Provincial Elders' Conference of each Province. All Provincial Elders' Conferences are responsible to the Provincial Synods of their Provinces, and are accountable to the same for their administration.

The Provincial Elders' Conferences are elected in a different manner in the several Provinces of the Unity, namely :

I. In the British and the American Provinces, according 2 to the constitutional rules determined on for those Provinces.

[The remainder of this section concerns the German Province only.] (Synodal Results, 1879, § 80.)

The Rights and Duties of Provincial Elders' Conferences.

The rights and duties of the Provincial Elders' Conferences are the following :

I. The care for the conscientious carrying out in their 3 Provinces of the resolutions of the General Synods.

- 1 2. The supreme control of all provincial affairs which fall within the scope of Provincial Synods, as such, in accordance, however, with the principles and rules laid down by the Provincial Synods concerned. In extraordinary cases, however, a Provincial Elders' Conference can act on its own responsibility; but a special report thereupon must be laid before the next Provincial Synod.
- 2 3. The appointment and superintendence of all laborers and ministers of the Provinces concerned, who consequently owe obedience to the Provincial Elders' Conference of their Province.
- 3 4. The right to depose a minister who acts in opposition to the principles and rules of the Brethren's Unity.
- 4 5. The right to convene Provincial Synods in urgent cases and, in addition, to determine time and place of meeting. (Synodal Results, 1879, § 81.)

**b. PROVINCIAL CONSTITUTION, ADOPTED, 1856;
APPROVED, 1857.**

Duties and Functions of the Provincial Elders' Conference.

- 5 The following rules are in force for the Provincial Elders' Conference of the Northern District of the American Province.

Their duties are :

- a. To appoint one of their number to act as President.
- b. To see that the enactments of General Synods are faithfully carried out in the Province.
- c. To appoint and control all ministers and other servants of the Province.

NOTE.—An exception is to be made in the case of the first Professor in the Theological Seminary, who may be appointed directly by the Provincial Synod.

[The Provincial Elders' Conference is empowered to make and fill vacancies in said office. (Journal, 1864, p. 75.)]

- d. To convene Provincial Synods in cases of emergency.

e. To administer the government of the Church in the Province generally, under such rules and regulations as shall be adopted from time to time by Provincial Synods. (Journal, 1856, pp. 63, 64; Synodal Results, 1857, § 65, A. p. 62.)

Alterations of the Constitution.

That the following article be added to the Constitution of the Church of the Northern American Province :

“Any proposed alteration in the Constitution, as the same is set forth in the Results of the General Synod of 1857, and in so far as alterations in the Constitution are within the power of the Provincial Synod, shall be referred to a Committee of nine, to be elected by ballot ; and when this Committee shall have reported upon the proposed alteration, the same shall be read, as reported, shall be discussed in Synod, and shall then be voted upon on three several days, and shall be considered as adopted only in case, at each reading and voting, three-fourths of the members present vote in its favor.” (Journal, 1861, pp. 57, 68.)

c. PROVINCIAL BY-LAWS.

§ 79. 3. h. *The Provincial Elders' Conference.*

I. That the Provincial Elders' Conference shall consist 2 of three members chosen from among the ordained ministers of the Church, at least one of whom shall hold no other office, either as Pastor of a Congregation or as Principal of a Church School.

II. That the three members of the Provincial Elders' 3 Conference should reside within easy reach of one another, so that every meeting can be attended by the entire Board.

III. That the Provincial Elders' Conference be urged to 4 take all possible steps to relieve a second member of the Board from the necessity of holding another office. (Journal, 1888, p. 111.)

IV. That the term of office of the Provincial Elders' 5 Conference shall extend to the convening of the next Provincial Synod. (Journal, 1888, pp. 90, 110.)

Rules for the Election of the Provincial Elders' Conference.

I. That the election of the Provincial Elders' Conference 6 be by ballot, and that the three members be voted for on the same ticket.

- 1 II. That two-thirds of all the votes cast be necessary to a choice. (Journal, 1888, pp. 64, 76.)

Filling of Vacancies in the Provincial Elders' Conference.

- 2 Vacancies which may occur in the Provincial Elders' Conference during the recess of the Provincial Synod, shall be filled in the following manner:
- 3 1. The remaining member or members shall at once issue a circular to the *ex officio* members of the Provincial Synod, and to the congregations of the Province entitled to lay representation at Provincial Synods, appointing an election to fill the vacancy or vacancies.
- 4 2. As soon as possible after the receipt of such circular, there shall be chosen in each congregation entitled to representation at Provincial Synods, according to the rules governing such cases, as many electors and as many alternates as such congregation was entitled to send to the Provincial Synod last held, which electors shall serve until the vacancy in the Provincial Elders' Conference shall have been filled. The certificates of election of the electors and alternates of each congregation shall be sent in to the Provincial Elders' Conference, duly certified by the Chairman and Secretary of the Council.
- 5 3. Within three calendar weeks from the receipt of the circular, the ballots of the *ex officio* members of the Provincial Synod and the electors chosen by the congregations entitled to representation at the Provincial Synod shall be sent, sealed and endorsed with the name of the sender, to the Provincial Elders' Conference, who shall receive them, but break no seal until the time designated in the following section (4.).
- 6 4. On the twenty-eighth day after mailing this circular, or sooner if all the votes are received before that time, the remaining member or members shall add their own ballots, and shall open and count the votes, whether all have been received or not, in the presence of not less than five other brethren, and the brother receiving the highest number of votes cast, provided it be at the same time an absolute majority, shall be elected to fill the vacancy.
- 7 5. Should there be two vacancies to be filled, the two members shall be voted for on one ticket.
- 8 6. Should a brother or brethren having an absolute majority decline to serve, or should no brother receive an absolute majority, or should two of them have the same majority, a new ballot shall be ordered by the Provincial

Elders' Conference in a circular giving the result of the previous election, which shall be repeated, if necessary, as herein prescribed until the vacancy or vacancies are filled, provided, however, that on the second and subsequent ballots, the seals shall be broken and the votes counted on the twenty-first day after mailing the circulars calling for said ballots, the votes in the second and subsequent ballots being confined to the nine (9) brethren having the highest number of votes on the first ballot.

7. All official documents in connection with the election, **1** as issued by the Provincial Elders' Conference, shall likewise be inserted in *The Moravian* and *Der Brueder Botschafter* as soon as possible after the issuing of each circular. (Journal, 1888, pp. 99, 100, 109.)

Organization of the Provincial Elders' Conference.

That the Provincial Elders' Conference shall have power **2** to organize by electing a President, Secretary and Treasurer. (Journal, 1861, pp. 43, 44; 1878, pp. 114, 115; 1881, p. 63.)

The Minutes of the Provincial Elders' Conference.

I. That the minutes of the Provincial Elders' Conference **3** shall be kept in full, and the vote on all calls and appointments shall be entered therein by yeas and nays.

II. That the minutes of the Provincial Elders' Conference **4** shall be open to the inspection of any member of Synod during its sittings. (Journal, 1878, pp. 150, 152.)

Annual Statistics.

That the Provincial Elders' Conference be instructed to **5** prepare for publication annual statistical tables of the churches in our Province, exhibiting the number of communicants, of children, the whole number of souls, the increase or decrease in each church, the number of Sunday-scholars and Sunday-school teachers. (Journal, 1856, p. 100.)

Annual Succinct Report.

That the Provincial Elders' Conference draw up a succinct report, each year, for publication in the congregations, containing a survey of the condition and activity of the Church, during the past year, and such other matters as they may think well to bring to the attention of our membership. (Journal, 1868, pp. 110, 114.) **6**

§ 84. *Official Visitations.*

1. 4. That the congregations should be visited, as frequently as practicable, by a member of the Provincial Elders' Conference. (Journal, 1884, pp. 28, 29.)
2. II. That the Provincial Elders' Conference be permitted to appoint another brother to hold a special visitation in their name. (Journal, 1858, pp. 76, 77.)
3. III. The commission of a brother who holds an official visit in a congregation must be expressed in the credentials which he brings from the Provincial Elders' Conference, and the church-boards and congregations are expected to receive him with love and confidence, and to facilitate, as much as possible, the execution of his commission. (Synodal Results, 1848, § 142.)

DISTRICTS AND DISTRICT SYNODS.

4. I. That the American Province of the Moravian Church of the United Brethren may be divided into Districts by the Provincial Synod, the number of which shall be determined, and the boundaries thereof altered and enlarged, from time to time, as the Provincial Synod may deem expedient.
5. II. That the Provincial Synod may organize District Synods in each District, investing them with such power, legislative and otherwise, and constituted of such members as the Provincial Synod may determine; provided that congregations shall always be entitled to representation in such District Synods, and every congregation to at least one lay delegate, and that no District Synod shall exercise any authority or do any act which has not been authorized by the Provincial Synod, or which by the Constitution and Rules of the Unitas Fratrum exceeds the power of the Provincial Synod.
6. III. That any changes in the Constitution of the American Province which shall hereafter be proposed by Provincial Synods, shall be submitted to the Department of the Unity of the Unity's Elders' Conference for their decision, whether or not they conflict with any fundamental principle of doctrine, ritual or government of the Unitas Fratrum.

IV. That Resolution III, in respect to changes in the Constitution of this Province, was, and is meant to refer to those changes only, which may grow out of the general principles laid down in the two preceding resolutions. (Journal, 1868, pp. 74, 75, 78, 79, 117; Synodal Results, 1869, Appendix C. 6; 1879, p. 163.)

PROVINCIAL BY-LAWS.

I. That District Synods shall be held twice in each District in the interval between Provincial Synods. 2

II. That the District Synods which shall be held twice in each District in the intervals between the regular Provincial Synods, according to Paragraph I, shall meet in the second and fourth years of that interval, unless an extra Provincial Synod be called in either of those years. 3

III. That the Province shall be divided into four Districts; the first and second to be constituted as at present: the third to consist of all the congregations in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa and Missouri; the fourth to consist of all the congregations in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan and Dakota. 4

[a. That the churches of New York City, Brooklyn, Staten Island and Utica, N. Y., Elizabeth, N. J., Bethlehem, South Bethlehem, Coveville, Nazareth, Hopedale, Schenectady, Emmaus and Easton, Pa., constitute the First District.

b. That the rest of the Pennsylvania churches, with Graceham, Mechanicstown, Md., and Palmyra, Riverside and Egg Harbor City of New Jersey, constitute the Second District.

c. That the churches in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa and Missouri constitute the Third District.

d. That the Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan and Dakota churches constitute the Fourth District.]

Should additional congregations be organized, the Provincial Elders' Conference shall, until otherwise directed by the Provincial Synod, designate the District to which each shall belong. (Journal, 1870, pp. 75, 77; 1876, pp. 59, 61, 64; 1884, pp. 29, 30, 49, 50, 52; 1888, pp. 64, 72.)

IV. That the following shall be entitled to seats in the District Synods: 5

1. All Bishops of the Province.
2. The members of the Provincial Elders' Conference.

3. All ordained ministers holding their office by appointment of the Provincial Elders' Conference, in active service in the District.

4. A lay delegate from its own number to represent the Board of Church Extension.

5. The lay delegates of the several congregations in the District. Each of the Home Mission congregations shall send one delegate; each self-sustaining congregation having less than 150 communicant members shall send one delegate; each congregation having 150 communicants and less than 300, two delegates; each congregation having 300 and less than 500, three delegates; and for congregations having 500 communicants or more the last-named ratio between communicant members and delegates shall be observed.

1. V. That these District Synods shall have the same duties, functions and powers as are now committed to the District Conferences, namely: That it shall be their duty, in all proper ways to promote vital religion within their Districts; to examine into, develop and strengthen the work of the Church therein, collect information relating to matters of Church activity within their several Districts, hear complaints and grievances, examine into the causes thereof, endeavor to adjust and reconcile differences, examine how the enactments of Provincial and District Synods are carried out in the District, stimulate systematic beneficence and contributions to the Church's wants, and encourage collections in aid of special Church activity within the Districts; and they may direct and control the expenditures of all moneys raised within the District through their instrumentality or committed to them—with the addition, that they shall have the power to legislate on all matters pertaining to their Districts; provided that such legislation does not in any wise conflict with the powers or enactments of the General or Provincial Synods.

2. VI. That the time and place of meeting of the first District Synod in each District shall be designated by the Provincial Elders' Conference, but thereafter each District Synod shall itself fix the time and place of subsequent meetings, and may adopt its own organization and rules of order. (Journal, 1888, pp. 64, 65, 71-74.)

3. VII. That all legislation now standing with reference to the former District Conferences not conflicting with the legislation of this Synod, shall apply to District Synods, and all former enactments of Synod conflicting with such

legislation be and are hereby rescinded. (Journal, 1888, p. 89.)

VIII. *Resolved*, That the present District Boards of Church Extension, wherever there are such, be continued in office until the first meeting of the District Synods. (Journal, 1888, p. 106.)

IX. *Resolved*, That the Provincial Elders' Conference appoint a District Board of Church Extension for the Second District to serve until the meeting of the District Synod. (Journal, 1888, p. 110.)

X. That it shall be the duty of District Synods to furnish copies of their proceedings to the Provincial Elders' Conference, whenever so required. (Journal, 1870, pp. 78, 79; 1888, p. 89.)

XI. That it shall be the imperative duty of one member of the Provincial Elders' Conference to attend each District Synod, unless circumstances absolutely prevent, in which case they may appoint a delegate. (Journal, 1870, pp. 78, 79; 1888, p. 89.)

XII. That the Chairmen of the District Boards of Church Extension shall be *ex officio* members of the District Synods with all the rights and privileges of members elected. (Journal, 1878, pp. 150, 152; 1888, p. 89.)

XIII. That the rule enacted by this Synod with regard to the traveling expenses of members of Provincial Synods shall also hold good with regard to the members of the District Synods. (Journal, 1878, pp. 144, 146; 1888, p. 89.)

THE FINANCES OF THE AMERICAN PROVINCE.

Control and Objects of the Sustentation Fund.

The control of the Sustentation Diacony, including the diaconies of the educational institutions, is under the supervision of the Provincial Elders' Conference.

The Sustentation Diacony has for its object the making of suitable provision for the wants of this section of the Church, in as far as it constitutes a whole. It is its business, therefore,

[*a.* To pay the salaries of such members of the Provincial Elders' Conference as hold no other office, and to discharge the unavoidable expenses of the Conference.]

b. To supply the pensions due to superannuated ministers.

c. To defray the expenses incurred by the publication of our periodicals.

[*d.* To aid the more destitute congregations to defray the expenses incident to the maintenance of their ministers.]

[*e.* To aid such ministers as cannot obtain a competent support from their own congregations.]

f. To furnish means for the necessary general education of the children of our ministers, the salaries of none of the ministers being sufficiently ample to enable them to give their children a respectable education.

[*g.* To provide for the further education of young men engaged in a course of theological study.]

Whatever has reference to the education of such as are mentioned under *f* and *g*, is included in what is usually termed, *the diaconies of our educational institutions*. (Journal, 1847, §§ 51, 52.)

[*Note.*—By the action of the Synods of 1876, (Journal, p. 81, III.) subdivisions *d* and *e*, and by that of the Synod of 1881 (Journal, pp. 52, 53, 59, 72, 74, 75, 77,) subdivisions *a* and *g*, were practically stricken from this list of the objects of the Sustentation Fund, under which the congregations of Bethlehem, Nazareth and Lititz made over a part of their property.]

AN ACT

To Incorporate the Board of Elders of the Northern Diocese of the Church of the United Brethren in the United States of America.

- 1 SECTION I.—Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same
- 2 That the present members of the Board of Brethren who for the time being are appointed to superintend the secular and spiritual concerns of the Northern Diocese of the Church of the United Brethren, commonly called Moravians, in the United States of America, to wit: John C. Jacobson, Henry A. Shultz and Philip H. Goepp, and their successors as they may be from time to time appointed in accordance with the Constitution, rules and regulations of the said Church of the United Brethren as they now exist or may be hereafter modified or altered, shall be and are hereby declared to be a body corporate to be known by the name, style and title of "The Board of Elders of the Northern Diocese of the Church of the United Brethren in the United States of America," and by that name shall have perpetual succession, be able and capable in law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in the Courts of this Commonwealth and elsewhere, to have and use a common seal, and to make and establish such by-laws and ordinances as shall be necessary and proper for the regulation of the temporal concerns of the said Northern Diocese of the said Church of the United Brethren, for the support of acting and superannuated ministers of the said Church, for the promotion of religion by edu-

cation, foreign and domestic missions, and otherwise; *Provided*, That nothing be done, in pursuance of the powers and privileges hereinbefore granted, contrary or repugnant to this Act and to the Constitution and laws of this Commonwealth. *And provided further*, That all the acts of the said Board of Elders of the Northern Diocese of the Church of the United Brethren, in the United States of America, be in conformity to the rules, regulations and principles of the said Church of the United Brethren in the United States of America and not in any wise inconsistent with the same.

SEC. II.—That the President of said Board of Elders shall be appointed in accordance with the rules and regulations of the said Church of the United Brethren, and that said Board of Elders or a majority of them may, if they deem it necessary, elect or appoint a treasurer and such other officers as may be necessary, at such times and such places and to serve for such a period as they may deem convenient and necessary, or as may be ordered by the regulations or by-laws of the said Church. 1

SEC. III.—That the said Board of Elders and their successors by the name, title and style aforesaid shall be able and capable in law to purchase, receive, hold and enjoy all such lands, tenements, bequests, annuities and gifts as may be at any time sold, conveyed, bequeathed, given or granted to it either absolutely or in trust, and have power to sell or otherwise dispose of the same; *Provided*, That the said corporators shall not at any time hold or absolutely possess property or estate real, personal or mixed, exceeding the annual value of Twelve Thousand Dollars. 2

SEC. IV.—That no misnomer of said corporation and their successors shall defeat or annul any gift, grant, devise or bequest to or from said corporation; *Provided* the intent of the party or parties shall sufficiently appear upon the face of the gift, grant, will or other writing, whereby any estate or interest was intended to pass to or from the said corporation. 3

JOHN CESSNA,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

BENJAMIN MATTHIAS,
Speaker of the Senate.

Approved, The twenty-ninth day of March, A. D. eighteen hundred and fifty-one.

WM. F. JOHNSTON.

A SUPPLEMENT TO AN ACT

Entitled An Act to Incorporate the Board of Elders of the Northern Diocese of the Church of the United Brethren in the United States of America, approved the twenty-ninth day of March, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one.

SEC. I.—Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same 4

That so much of the third section of an Act entitled An Act to Incorporate the Board of Elders of the Northern Diocese of the Church of the United Brethren in the United States of America, approved the twenty-ninth day of March, in the year of our Lord, one-thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, as provides that the said Corporators shall not at any time hold or absolutely possess property or estate 5

real, personal or mixed, exceeding the annual value of Twelve Thousand Dollars, be and the same is hereby repealed, and that the said Corporators shall not at any time hold or absolutely possess property or estate real, personal or mixed, exceeding the annual value of Twenty Thousand Dollars.

G. NELSON SMITH,

Speaker pro tem. of the House of Representatives.

WILLIAM H. WELSH,

Speaker of the Senate.

Approved, The tenth day of February, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight.

WM. F. PACKER.

The Present Financial Crisis.

1. I. That we acknowledge the present financial difficulties of the Church as a Divine chastisement inflicted because we have left the first love, zeal and faith of our fathers.
2. II. That while we assert our full and unqualified conviction, that it is "not by might, nor by power, but by His Spirit" that the Lord begins, carries and revives His work, we likewise would realize the force of this solemn truth also, that the Lord requires of all His servants that they should be wise and faithful. (Journal, 1880, pp. 105, 106.)
3. III. That a list of subscriptions be opened in every congregation, for the relief of the present difficulties of the Sustentation Fund, that is, to restore the capital which has been taken up to meet the deficiencies, which list shall be placed in the hands of the ministers and church-boards, and remain open for one year for those members or Boards of Trustees who may wish time to make up their contributions—such subscriptions not to interfere with the stated Church Collections. (Journal, 1881, pp. 3, 62, 75.)
4. IV. That the Joint Board, consisting of the Provincial Elders' Conference and the Advisory Board, be and it is hereby instructed to urge all measures which may tend to increase the capital of the Sustentation Fund, whether by means of the resolution of the Synod of 1881, as found in the Provincial Digest, p. 84, 3—or otherwise. (Journal, 1884, pp. 43, 45.)
5. V. That, as the future financial basis, in so far as the current expenses are concerned, contributions from the Boarding-schools shall be left out of account, and that the income of the Sustentation shall be so increased in other ways, and its outlay so diminished, that the latter will be annually covered by the former. (Journal, 1881, pp. 64, 72.)

VII. That in future no Boarding School be expected to 1 contribute to the Sustentation Fund until its indebtedness is practically extinguished. (Journal, 1884, pp. 31, 41, 45.)

VIII. That a new account for Linden Hall be opened in 2 the books, and charged with \$20,000, but that this institution be placed on precisely the same footing as the Publication Concern, in so far that it shall be expected to contribute annually only such amount as its condition shall warrant, and that its annual contributions shall be regarded as part of the regular income of the Sustentation Fund. (Journal, 1884, pp. 42, 43.)

VIII. That 20 per cent. of the annual surplus of the receipts of the Sustentation Fund be set aside as a Reserve Fund. (Journal, 1884, pp. 43, 45.) 3

IX. That the surplus income of the Sustentation Fund, 4 after deducting the charges for Taxes, Repairs, Sustentation-stipends and the special appropriations made by this Synod, be divided equally between those children of ministers who may be from time to time entitled to educational privileges—the present rule with regard to commutations and educational stipends being suspended until such time as the Sustentation Fund is able to resume the hitherto existing obligations. (Journal, 1881, p. 83.)

X. That we recognize the principle that any institution 5 of the Church, educational or otherwise, which is or becomes a constant drain on the funds of the Sustentation Fund, shall be discontinued. (Journal, 1881, pp. 72, 77.)

XI. In view of possible failures on the part of this 6 Synod to provide for unforeseen financial contingencies, or for expenditures that may prove necessary for the proper administration of the affairs of the Province, that the Provincial Elders' Conference be authorized in such event, in conjunction with the Financial Board, to make the best arrangement they can to meet each case. (Journal, 1881, p. 86.)

The Boarding Schools.

I. It scarcely need be particularly mentioned that the 7 property invested in our Boarding-schools * * * * is held by the Sustentation Diacony, and that in consequence the latter is also liable for their debts. The Provincial Elders' Conference constitutes the Board of Trustees of these institutions. (Journal, 1847, § 53, p. 30.)

II. That this Synod directs the Provincial Elders' Conference to see to it that all the schools of the Province are 8

carried on as economically as possible, by practicing the greatest retrenchment.

- 1 III. That the salaries of the Principals of Boarding-schools be fixed at five hundred dollars (\$500) each. (Journal, 1878, pp. 155, 156.)
- 2 IV. That the financial year of our Boarding-schools shall close with the last day of June. (Journal, 1884, pp. 43, 45.)

Financial Prohibition.

- 3 I. That the Provincial Elders' Conference shall have no power or authority, either to donate or advance any money from the general funds of the Church, for the purpose of erecting churches or meeting-houses in any of our congregations. (Journal, 1861, pp. 43, 44.)
- 4 II. That it is inexpedient at this time to authorize any loans for the purpose of purchasing land. (Journal, 1884, pp. 23, 43, 45.)

The Annual Abstract.

- 5 That an abstract of the accounts of the Sustentation Fund be annually communicated to the Board of Elders and Trustees of the congregations entitled to representation in the Synod of the Province. (Journal, 1867, pp. 72, 73.)

General Principle of Management.

- 6 It is laid down as a vital principle in the management of the financial affairs of the Sustentation Diacony, not only to confine expenditures within the limits of our income and thereby prevent a further increase of our indebtedness, but also gradually to reduce and ultimately to liquidate our debt by the creation of a sinking-fund. (Journal, 1849, p. 27, XVI.)

Investment of Funds.

- 7 That the funds of the Sustentation Diacony, including those held in trust, be invested in such a manner as to bear a rate of interest not less than six per cent., but that no other but perfectly safe investments be made. (Journal, 1855, pp. 115, 134.)

Gifts and Bequests.

- 8 In case gifts or bequests of any large amount be made to the Sustentation Diacony, the same shall be considered and invested, in the best manner possible, as a fund, under the name and title of the benefactor, of which fund only

the annual income is to be used for the purposes of the Sustentation Diacony, unless where the donors or devisors expressly direct otherwise : provided always, that as long as the Sustentation Diacony is burdened with any funded debts, it shall be at the discretion of the Provincial Elders' Conference, either to invest such sums as funds, or to apply them to the liquidation of funded debts. (Journal, 1849, p. 26, XIII.)

The Expenses of the Administrative Government.

I. That the Provincial Synod reiterates its firm conviction that the Church in our Province is able to provide and ought to provide for the expenses of its government. (Journal, 1881, pp. 59, 72, 74, 75 ; 1884, pp. 32, 33, 34 : 1888, pp. 50, 58, 59.) 1

II. That the Provincial Elders' Conference be and it is hereby instructed to fix an amount for every church in the Province to be paid annually towards the defraying of the general expenses of the Provincial Elders' Conference and of the government of the Province, including the removal of ministers, but exclusive of the expenses of Provincial Synods and District Synods ; such money to be raised by each congregation in such a way as if through its Boards of Elders and Trustees may think best ; *provided*, that each congregation must report and forward its contribution not later than December 31, in each and every year ; and *provided*, further, that this is not to interfere with the regular Church collections now established. (Journal, 1884, pp. 32, 33, 34.) 2

III. That the Provincial Elders' Conference annually in their financial report, as also in their report to the Provincial Synods, shall make a special report as to those congregations which have been delinquent. (Journal, 1884, pp. 32, 34.) 3

IV. That the salary of a member of the Provincial Elders' Conference, holding no other office, be fixed at (\$1,000) one thousand dollars, with the use of a house. (Journal, 1881, pp. 86, 87.) 4

The Pensions of Ministers.

I. That the maximum amounts paid as annual pensions shall be : To a married couple, or a widower, (\$360) three hundred and sixty dollars ; to a widow, (\$175) one hundred and seventy-five dollars. (Journal, 1881, pp. 64, 65.) 5

II. That the maximum pension to be paid to a retired unmarried minister, if disabled, be (\$250) two hundred and fifty dollars. (Journal, 1881, pp. 65, 72, 82.)

1. III. That upon the decease of a married retired minister his widow shall receive the full pension of a married couple for the first six months after said decease, and after that time the regular pension as widow. (Journal, 1888, pp. 51, 61.)
2. IV. That upon the decease of a married minister in active service, his widow shall receive the full pension of a married couple for the first six months after said decease, and after that time the regular pension as widow. (Journal, 1888, p. 107.)
3. V. That the privilege to receive a pension is dependent not only on faithful service, but also on continued faithfulness to the Church, and that the privilege ceases, immediately, on exclusion, dismissal or voluntary severance of fellowship with or membership in the Brethren's Church. (Journal, 1888, pp. 51, 61.)

Sustentational and Educational Privileges.

4. I. That no home-missionary or minister who has been received from other Churches, or otherwise received into the ministry upon trial for one year, shall be entitled to any sustentational or educational privileges, unless after faithful service of six years' duration, to be computed from the day of his acceptance into the service of the Church, nor shall either he or his family, in case of death, or resignation, or removal from office, prior to the expiration of said term, have claims upon the general funds of the Church.
5. II. That no children of any home-missionary, or minister, born prior to their father having entered into the service of our Church, shall be entitled to educational privileges.
6. III. That the Provincial Elders' Conference shall report to every Provincial Synod the names of all those home-missionaries, who are entitled to sustentational or educational privileges. (Journal, 1861, pp. 43, 44.)
7. IV. That the Provincial Elders' Conference be and it is hereby instructed to strictly enforce the rule with regard to sustentational privileges enacted by the Synod of 1861 (see Journal, 1861, pp. 43, 44; Provincial Digest, p. 88, 4). (Journal, 1888, pp. 51, 61.)
8. V. That the sustentational privileges of any widow of a deceased minister shall cease as soon as she shall marry, but the educational privileges of her children shall continue unaltered. (Journal, 1861, p. 57.)

Annual Collections for Retired Ministers, etc.

I. That an annual collection be held in the churches of 1
the Northern District of the American Province in the first
quarter of each year, for the sustentation of retired minis-
ters and ministers' widows.

II. That the Provincial Elders' Conference be charged to 2
issue an annual cirenlar, calling on the congregations for
aid, and urging them to assist in supporting those who
have borne the labor and heat of the day. (Journal, 1876,
pp. 80, 81.)

III. That the ministers, churches, and members be 3
earnestly requested to increase the collection for the retired
ministers and the widows of ministers, to at least two
thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500). (Journal, 1878,
pp. 157, 158.)

IV. That the churches of our Province be urged to 4
greater liberality in supporting the collection for retired
ministers and widows of ministers. (Journal, 1888, pp.
50, 61.)

Retirement from Office.

I. On final retirement from office, grants may be made 5
towards the expenses of removal, if the brother or sister
concerned is without means of his or her own. (Synodal
Results, 1848, § 80.).

II. In most cases it is advisable that the place of retire- 6
ment should be other than the last place of service.
(Synodal Results, 1848, § 80.)

Educational Privileges.

I. That each son or daughter of the ministers of our 7
Chnch shall hereafter be entitled to the privilege of four
years' gratuitous support and education in our educational
institntions, or to a yearly commutation-money of fifty
dollars during four succeeding years, to begin from the
eleventh birthday of such children—at the option of the
parents. (Journal, 1861, p. 57.)

II. That those entitled to the educational privileges of 8
the Church shall no longer be, as heretofore, limited to the
age of from ten to fourteen years, but that the four years
be granted between the age of ten to sixteen years. (Jour-
nal, 1881, p. 86.)

III. That the Provincial Elders' Conference be directed 9
to continue in the course which they have already adopted

in reference to the educational privileges of the children of ministers. (Journal, 1870, pp. 68, 69.)

- 1 IV. That the annual stipend for the support and education of the children of ministers at our Boarding-schools be increased to \$200, beginning from the first day of July, 1864. (Journal, 1864, p. 64.)

Systemization of Collections.

- 2 I. That the respective Boards, under whose auspices the several collections are made, be instructed to publish the estimated amounts required in each case in the Church-papers, prior to the holding of the collections.
- 3 II. That the respective Boards issue a circular statement and appeal to the pastors, elders, trustees, and churches of the Province, before each stated collection in behalf of the various objects specified by resolution of Synod, giving the quota assigned by them to each church for such collection.
- 4 III. That the following schedule of collections be adopted in our churches :
 1. For Retired Ministers—last Sunday in January.
 2. For Bohemian Mission—first Sunday in March.
 3. For Foreign Missions—Easter-Day or Whit-Sunday.
 4. For New York German Mission—last Sunday in June.
 5. For Home Missions—Sunday nearest September 16.
 6. For Theological Seminary—last Sunday in November.
- 5 IV. That the Sunday-schools also be recommended to contribute for these objects on the days specified.
- 6 V. That the Churches be requested to adopt some system of raising the quotas assigned by the Board of Apportionment, which shall be certain to produce them. (Journal, 1878, pp. 168, 169.)

Provincial Trust Funds.

- 8 I. [The congregations of Bethlehem and Nazareth have relinquished a part of their property] to the Sustentation Diacony, but on the express condition that the funds so transferred to the Sustentation Diacony remain unimpaired and undiminished as a trust-fund held by the Provincial Elders' Conference or by the Church of our Province, for the purpose of appropriating the yearly income to be derived therefrom for the benefit of our Sustentation and Educational Diacony and for no other purpose whatever. The capital is to remain untouched and undiminished. (Journal, 1855, Report, p. 100.)

II. That a Fund similar to the Bethlehem and Nazareth Special Funds be created, called the Lititz Special Fund, and that the sum of twenty thousand dollars be credited to the same, this being the estimated value of the Lititz Boarding-school, formerly being considered the property of the Lititz congregation, and not heretofore accounted for in the books of the Sustentation Diacony. (Journal, 1861, pp. 50, 62.)

The Ohio Conference and the Western Sustentation Fund.

That our congregations in Ohio, Indiana and other Western States, or as many of them as may wish to associate together for such a purpose, have the full permission of this Synod to make an effort to create a sustentation-fund for those congregations; and for that purpose they are hereby permitted and authorized to hold conferences, composed of their ministers and lay delegates, as often, and at such time and places, as may be convenient to them; and if their efforts should prove successful, to make such regulations in regard to the accumulation and disposition of said fund, as in the opinion of the congregations mentioned, expressed through such conferences, may be deemed expedient. (Journal, 1855, pp. 83, 84.)

On Raising Certain Capital Funds.

I. That the Provincial Elders' Conference be authorized and requested to take such ways and means as they may deem most suitable to raise moneys for the several enterprises of the Church named in this resolution, and after appropriating out of the collection for each and every year not exceeding fifty per cent. for the payment of current expenses, the balance be funded at the close of each year until there shall have been raised for the endowment of the College and Theological Seminary a capital of \$100,000, for the encouragement of Home Missions a capital of \$50,000, and for the endowment of the English and German Church-papers (with liberty to assist the publication office thereout) a capital of \$25,000: all of which funds shall be kept properly invested, and the income appropriated to said enterprises by the Provincial Elders' Conference, who shall render full statements of their doings and acts to each Synod.

II. That it be recommended to the Provincial Elders' Conference, if they deem it expedient, to delegate one or more lay brethren to visit the members of the respective

churches, and explain the objects of these funds, and to lay before them the several methods whereby it is expected that means may be raised for said purpose, and to urge upon them the great necessity of immediate action in the matter.

- 1 III. That a standing appeal be made in the columns of the Church-papers for these objects, and that a form of bequests for said objects be inserted therein. (Journal, 1867, p. 100.)

The Newport and Church Extension Funds.

- 2 I. That the proceeds of the Newport property sale be reserved for a Church Extension Fund, to be loaned to poor congregations, in sums not exceeding six hundred dollars, with interest, on undoubted security, and for a period of time not exceeding five years.
- 3 II. That all property of abandoned congregations that may hereafter come into the possession of the Church be disposed of and the proceeds thereof constitute a Church Extension Fund.
- 4 III. That the interest accruing from said fund be donated to feeble Home Mission congregations, at the discretion of the Provincial Elders' Conference. (Journal, 1868, pp. 95, 119, 120.)

The Special Publication Fund.

- 5 That the Treasurer of the Sustentation Fund, and the Brethren Joseph A. Rice, Ashton C. Borhek, Herman A. Brickenstein, William H. Jordan and Edwin G. Klosé be a Committee to control the application and disbursement of the special Publication Fund; their term of office to continue until the next Synod. (Journal, 1881, p. 107.)

The Joint Board.

- 6 I. That this Synod, and every Provincial Synod hereafter, elect an Advisory Board of laymen, in number equal to the number of members in the Provincial Elders' Conference, who with the Provincial Elders' Conference shall constitute a Joint Board for the management and control of all the financial affairs of the Province, not otherwise specially provided for. In case of the resignation or death of any member of the Advisory Board, the vacancy shall be filled by the remaining members of the Advisory Board until the next election.

II. That a majority of the members of this Advisory 1 Board shall be chosen from the membership of the congregations which were the principal contributors to the Sustentation Fund, namely, Bethlehem, Nazareth and Lititz.

III. That it shall be the duty of this Joint Board to hold 2 meetings from time to time as may be required, at which meetings a statement of the cash account shall be submitted by the Treasurer; such part of the cash on hand as may be deemed advisable shall be securely invested; and such other business transacted as falls within the scope of the first of these resolutions.

IV. That at the meetings of this Joint Board the resolutions adopted by a majority with regard to all financial matters, shall be binding upon the Provincial Elders' Conference. (Journal, 1881, pp. 37, 63.)

V. That the Provincial Elders' Conference, in connection 4 with the Advisory Financial Board, be recommended to take all necessary precautions in making investments; to invest no more in the stocks of railroads, banks and manufacturing companies; and to reduce the amount invested at present, as soon as it can be done advantageously, reinvesting the amounts received in first mortgages on real estate and in reliable bonds of corporations. (Journal, 1876, pp. 80, 81.)

VI. That the Joint Board, composed of the Provincial 5 Elders' Conference and the Advisory Board, be instructed to provide for an annual audit of the accounts of the Sustentation Fund, of the Church Boarding-schools, and of the Publication Concern. (Journal, 1881, pp. 62, 81.)

VII. That the Brethren Charles A. Zöebisch, Abraham 6 S. Schropp and J. Sammel Krause, be elected as the Advisory Board. (Journal, 1881, pp. 73, 82; 1884, pp. 43, 45; 1888, pp. 82, 98.)

§ 87. *The Provincial Archives.*

I. That the Archives now at Bethlehem, belonging to the 7 Province, be consolidated with those of the Moravian Church at Bethlehem, and be intrusted to the keeping of that church.

II. That Synod recommends to the several churches of 8 the Province to transfer to the consolidated Archives at Bethlehem, such papers or books now in the Archives of these churches, as the same may be willing to give up.

III. That Synod recommends to the pastors and trustees 9 of the Bethlehem Church, in conjunction with the Provincial Elders' Conference, to appoint an archivist.

- 1 IV. That any person desiring to examine the Archives, or wishing to borrow books, maps or papers from the same, shall first obtain the consent of the Provincial Elders' Conference and the pastors of the Bethlehem Church. (Journal, 1861, pp. 61, 62.)
- 2 V. That the Synod, hearing with pleasure that it is proposed to remove the Joint Archives of the Province and the congregation at Bethlehem, together with the Malin Library, to a fire-proof building, herewith appoints the Treasurer of the Provincial Elders' Conference, the Archivist of the Province and the Secretary of Publications a Committee to co-operate with a Committee to be appointed by the Trustees of the congregation at Bethlehem in securing funds for the erection of said fire-proof building. (Journal, 1888, pp. 50, 61.)

Congregation Archives.

- 3 Every minister is expected to care for the public documents of the congregation which he serves. (Synodal Results, 1836.)

CHAPTER XI.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

A Missionary Meeting at Each Synod.

- 4 That at each Synod a public Missionary Meeting be held, and that a member of Synod be requested by the Provincial Elders' Conference to prepare a short opening address, and one to conduct the meeting. (Journal, 1870, pp. 82, 83.)

The Mission in Alaska.

- 5 I. That this Synod strongly recommends that the ministers and members of our churches exert themselves in obtaining members for the Alaska Auxiliary to the Society for Propagating the Gospel; and, furthermore, that all the churches be requested to interest themselves in raising funds for the Alaska enterprise. (Journal, 1884, pp. 63, 64.)
- 6 II. That this Synod expresses its hearty approval of the course pursued by the Provincial Board with regard to the Mission in Alaska, and returns grateful thanks to the Lord for His Providential leadings which have rejoiced us with the news of the first-fruits of our missionaries' faithful and

self-denying labors, whilst it most earnestly commends to the unceasing prayers and liberal support of our congregations this enterprise which has so thoroughly aroused the missionary spirit in our Province. (Journal, 1888, pp. 28, 56.)

III. That this Synod expresses its most sincere sympathy **1** with our missionaries at Bethel and Carmel in Alaska, and assures them of our fraternal intercessions and unceasing support. (Journal, 1888, pp. 70, 89.)

Pledge of Future Faithfulness and the Modes of Showing it.

I. That we pledge ourselves to be, by the grace of God **2** and His Holy Spirit, more faithful stewards of the testimony which the Saviour has committed unto us, not merely because it is our special duty to be thus faithful, as members of a Missionary Church, but also because it is our Master's will.

II. That we request the Unity's Elders' Conference to **3** call more laborers from our Province into the Mission service.

III. That we would impress upon the hearts of all the **4** candidates for the ministry the fact that the Brethren's Church has urgent need of servants in the Foreign Mission field; and, further, that the American Province has offered and again offers them to the Mission service.

IV. That we urge the members and friends of our **5** Church in the American Province to contribute more liberally for the support of the Foreign Missions of the Brethren's Church, in order that by increased gifts the danger of further annual deficiencies may be avoided.

V. That it shall continue to be the duty of each pastor **6** in charge of a congregation to see to it that one or two Mission Sermons are preached before his congregation each year, say on the Sundays nearest January 19 and August 21: provided that a "Mission Festival" may take the place of either or both these sermons.

VI. That this Synod recommends to each congregation to **7** hold a prayer-meeting in behalf of Foreign Missions on the first Monday in each month, or on the Sunday before the first Monday, or on some other convenient day; and that in such meetings for prayer it shall be the duty of the minister to communicate news from our Missions and to instruct the people in Mission history. (Journal, 1878, pp. 125-128.)

- 1 VII. That the Monthly Mission Prayer-meetings shall be conscientiously and faithfully observed by all the congregations in the Province.
- 2 VIII. That at each of said meetings, collections be taken up for our Foreign Mission cause. (Journal, 1881, p. 100.)
- 3 IX. That this Synod, in the name of the Northern District of the American Province, reiterates its adherence to the principle that "the Brethren's Unity and the Brethren's Missions are inseparably connected, and that there never will be a Unity of the Brethren without a Mission to the Heathen or a Mission of the Brethren which is not an affair of the whole Church." (Journal, 1888, pp. 95, 111.)
- 4 X. That this Synod recognizes the obligation to raise our fair share of money here in America to make good the deficit in our general missionary accounts, and urge our members and missionary societies to do all in their power to accomplish this, as well as to contribute more liberally so that such deficits may be prevented. (Journal, 1888, pp. 70, 89.)
- 5 XI. That it shall continue to be the duty of pastors and superintendents of Sunday-schools to strive to awaken among our young people an interest in the Mission-work of our Church.
- 6 XII. That pastors, Sunday-school superintendents, and the principals of our Church Schools, be requested to encourage the formation of Juvenile Missionary Societies in our Sunday-schools, Parochial Schools and Church Schools; and general or special Missionary Societies in each congregation. (Journal, 1878, pp. 125-128; 1881, p. 100; 1884, p. 64.)
- 7 XIII. That we urge upon the ministers and members of our Church to take greater personal interest in the Foreign Mission work, and to increase this interest by subscribing for and reading missionary reports, and above all, by prayers for Missions and Missionaries.
- 8 XIV. That one or more Mission Festivals a year be celebrated in all those congregations where circumstances will permit. (Journal, 1881, p. 100.)
- 9 XV. That we recommend the holding of annual church-collections for Foreign Missions, and also regular collections at the monthly prayer-meetings, and at the Mission Festivals. (Journal, 1878, pp. 125-128.)
- 10 XVI. That the Provincial Elders' Conference be requested to appoint for each District a brother as Advocate of the Foreign Missions, whose duty it shall be, amongst

other things, to take part if possible in the various Mission Festivals. (Journal, 1888, pp. 28, 56.)

XVII. That this Synod urges upon the congregations 1 not to neglect the collection for the support of superannuated or disabled native foreign missionaries.

XVIII. That this Synod expresses itself in brotherly 2 sympathy with the faithful and hard-working Missionaries and their assistants in the Indian Mission Fields of New Fairfield, Canada, and New Westfield, Kansas. (Journal, 1881, pp. 100, 101.)

XIX. That, in the event of the unavoidable cessation 3 of the Indian Mission in Kansas, the Synod will regard with satisfaction the embracing of any new opening for a Mission among the Indians, which may commend itself to the judgment of the Provincial Elders' Conference. (Journal, 1888, pp. 28, 56.)

XX. That this Synod of the Moravian Church hails with 4 joy the indications of a great revival of interest in the work of Foreign Missions, evidenced by the recent World's Foreign Missionary Conference, held June 9 to 19, 1888, in London, and prays God to hasten the day when the Church of Christ shall be united in carrying out the command of our Lord: "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." (Journal, 1888, p. 111.)

CHAPTER XII.

ACTIVITY FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD IN CHRISTENDOM.

§ 114. A. MISSIONS IN BOHEMIA AND MORAVIA.

I. That this Synod encourages and exhorts to a more 5 earnest and thorough prosecution of the Bohemian Mission.

II. That this Synod instruct the Bohemian Committee to 6 continue a direct and regular correspondence with the missionaries in Bohemia—letters from them to be published in our Church-papers.

III. That the Synod recommend the setting apart of that 7 Sunday in March nearest the first of March—the anniversary of the founding of the Church of our Fathers—as a day of special prayer for the Bohemian Mission, and that after the present year, congregations, which have no stated time or manner of taking a collection for this object, do so on this occasion. (Journal, 1876, pp. 88, 89; 1881, pp. 101, 102.)

- 1 IV. That to this end the resolution of the Synod of 1876, p. 89, appointing the first Sunday in March as a day of special prayer for the Bohemian Mission be anew urged upon the churches of the Province, and that such congregations as have not hitherto complied with this regulation requiring an annual collection in behalf of this cause (on that day) be requested hereafter to give heed thereto. (Journal, 1884, p. 69.)
- 2 V. That this Synod earnestly commends this noble cause to the steady and generous support and prayerful intercession of the churches of the Province, that a new and glorious epoch may dawn for our Church thus reinstated in the ancient seats of our spiritual forefathers. (Journal, 1881, pp. 101, 102; 1884, p. 69.)
- 3 VI. That in addition to the regularly appointed Synodical collection, at least one of the collections taken up at the monthly missionary meetings, ordered by Synod, be devoted to the Bohemian Mission. (Journal, 1884, p. 69.)
- 4 VII. That the attention of the Sunday-schools of the Province be directed to this particular object, and they be requested to make a united and special effort to secure the needful funds. (Journal, 1881, pp. 101, 102.)
- 5 VIII. That this Synod urgently recommends to the Standing Committee on Bohemian Mission the insertion of articles in our Church-papers, bearing on that subject, about the time of the annual collection.
- 6 IX. That this Synod suggest to the ministers of our Province the advisability of presenting the work in Bohemia to our congregations in a historical sermon on the day on which the annual collection in aid of the Mission is taken up. (Journal, 1888, pp. 51, 61.)

B. HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION.

Objects of Home Missions.

- 7 That the great objects of our Moravian Home Missions are, to spread the Gospel, to win souls for Jesus, wherever He opens the door in our country, and to form societies and congregations in full communion with the Moravian Church. (Journal, 1861, pp. 43, 44.)

Control of Missionaries.

- 8 That the supreme management of our Home Missions, including the appointment and oversight of our home-missionaries, is vested in the Provincial Elders' Conference;

and the Provincial Board of Church Extension shall fully control all matters referred to it by Synod. (Journal, 1881, pp. 95, 97.)

Organization of Missions.

That any number of persons, being under the care of a home-missionary, appointed by the Provincial Elders' Conference, may, with the consent of that body, and under such rules and regulations as it shall prescribe, organize themselves into a home-mission congregation, the full communicant members of which shall be considered individually full members of the Moravian Church; but no home-mission congregation, as such, shall have the privilege or right of synodical representation. (Journal, 1861, pp. 43, 44.)

Admission as a Regular Church.

That when such a home-mission congregation shall have been completely organized, and its members fully instructed and indoctrinated in the views and principles of our Church, said home-mission congregation shall be constituted and admitted as a regular Moravian or Brethren's Church, in accordance with the rules and provisions laid down by the Provincial Synod; but no home-mission congregation shall be constituted and admitted as a regular Moravian or Brethren's Church, unless by a resolution of the Provincial Synod, and until such home-mission congregation shall be fully able and willing to provide for the support of its minister, and the necessities of its church-establishment, without any fixed or regular aid out of the general funds of the Church. (Journal, 1861, pp. 43, 44.)

Unpromising Fields.

I. That whenever the Provincial Elders' Conference shall have become fully satisfied, after a reasonable period of time, that there is no prospect whatever of establishing a *Moravian Church* at a home-mission station, they may remove or appoint their missionary elsewhere, to a more promising field of labor. (Journal, 1861, p. 44.)

II. That Synod recommends the Provincial Board of Church Extension, after consultation with the Provincial Elders' Conference, to discontinue such home-mission enterprises, as, after years of careful cultivation, give little prospect of reaching the position of self-support. (Journal, 1878, p. 161.)

- 1 III. That if, after the lapse of ten (10) years, there be, in the opinion of the Provincial Elders' Conference, and in that of the Board of Church Extension, no prospect of self-support, for an enterprise that has received careful cultivation, such a mission shall be served in connection with the nearest Moravian congregation, or, if that be impracticable, abandoned ; provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the Provincial Elders' Conference and the Board of Church Extension from making such an arrangement or entirely abandoning an enterprise, if such action seems called for at an earlier time. (Journal, 1888, pp. 66, 101.)

Incitement to Self-Support.

- 2 That the Board of Church Extension be and is hereby instructed to annually decrease, as it may deem expedient, the amounts paid the ministers of the various Home Mission congregations and to require a corresponding increase of contributions on the part of such congregations. (Journal, 1883, pp. 66, 101.)

Spread of the Work.

- 3 I. That we regard with much satisfaction and thankfulness, the self-denying and devoted spirit that several of our brethren have shown in going forth into the home-mission work, in the trust that the Lord would provide through those to whom they might minister in holy things, and without dependence upon the general fund of the Church for their support ; and that it is strongly recommended to our Provincial Elders' Conference, editors, and ministers generally, to use every effort to promote so worthy and apostolic a spirit among the young men of our congregations.
- 4 II. That brethren—if such be found with the needful qualifications—be commissioned to visit new and destitute localities in our country, and be licensed to preach the Gospel and collect congregations, having their traveling expenses paid, but without depending for support upon the funds of the Church.
- 5 III. That we recommend that the first places so visited be those in which one or more Moravian families have settled. (Journal, 1867, pp. 78, 91, 92.)
- 6 IV. That the attention of the Provincial Elders' Conference be called to the importance of securing the observance by the pastors of all our congregations of resolution

10. Appendix L, Journal of Synod of 1867, which reads as follows: "That the ministers of all congregations, when sending in their annual statistics, be instructed to furnish the Provincial Elders' Conference with the names and post-office address of all the members who have moved out of their respective congregations to such places where no Moravian congregations exist, together with such other information as they may deem proper." (Journal, 1881, pp. 95, 97.)

V. That in view of the great spiritual destitution existing in many portions of our land, both among the native and the foreign population, our Church make every exertion, through her officers and ministers, in the way of fostering, encouraging and speedily extending our home-mission work. (Journal, 1870, p. 88.) 1

VI. That the pastors of home-mission congregations, 2 and others, be requested to announce, from time to time, through *The Moravian* and *Der Brüderer Botschafter*, such openings for farmers, laborers, and artisans as may present themselves to their observation, and seek through correspondence to draw to them Moravian membership. (Journal, 1878, pp. 161, 162.)

The Building of Churches.

I. That no home-mission church which counts on aid 3 from the Province shall build a church or a chapel without the express sanction of the Provincial Board of Church Extension; a plan of the building and estimates of the cost shall be laid before the same for approval, and this Board shall have authority to reject any plan if the same should be found to be unnecessarily expensive. (Journal, 1881, pp. 89, 90.)

II. That the Provincial Elders' Conference allow no new 4 home-mission church to be consecrated until all the expenses incurred in building the same have been paid, or, at least, until the Provincial Elders' Conference be fully satisfied that they will be paid. (Journal, 1873, pp. 82, 83.)

III. That no new church-building, hereafter to be erected, 5 shall be consecrated until all the expenses incurred in the building of the same shall have been paid, or have been provided for by collateral security. (Journal, 1881, pp. 44, 72.)

IV. That in every case the pastor and officers of a congregation notify the Provincial Elders' Conference that 6 these requirements have been complied with, and that

therenpon the said Conference formally, in writing, authorize the dedication.

- 1 V. That in the event of the expenses not having been paid or provided for by collateral security, a public opening of the new church, or chapel, may take place, after the Provincial Elders' Conference shall, in the same way, have been notified, and shall have given its written authorization, always provided that, in this document it shall be distinctly stated, that if, at such opening, the amount of the debt be collected, or pledged, a formal dedication may at once take place. (Journal, 1884, p. 53.)

Home Mission Societies.

- 2 I. That this Synod commends those congregations which have established Home Mission Societies in their midst. (Journal, 1873, pp. 82, 83.)
- 3 II. That the Home Mission Societies now in existence in our congregations, be *urged* by the Synod to *provide more liberally* than heretofore for the temporal support and comfort of their missionaries.
- 4 III. That the pastors of such of our congregations in which there are no Home Mission Societies, be urged by Synod to undertake, without delay, the formation of such Societies auxiliary to the home-mission work of our Church. (Journal, 1870, pp. 87, 88.)
- 5 IV. That Synod recommends all congregations which have not yet done so, to institute an organized effort to support the Home Missionary cause both among adults and children. (Journal, 1884, pp. 39, 48.)

Mission Festivals.

- 6 I. That our Home Mission congregations which are in proximity one to another, be requested to unite at least once in each year, in holding a "Mission Festival," for the purpose not only of raising funds for the Foreign and Home Missions, and creating and sustaining an interest in missionary work, but also of cementing the congregations in the bonds of brotherly love. (Journal, 1867, pp. 79, 93.)
- 7 II. That the above resolution, in regard to the holding of Mission Festivals, be anew and earnestly emphasized, and that Synod urge that such Mission Festivals for the support of the Home as well as the Foreign Mission work be held, if possible, in all congregations. (Journal, 1884, pp. 48, 49.)

Synodal Home Mission Meeting.

That at each Synod a public Home Missionary meeting 1 be held, and that a member of the Synod be requested by the Provincial Elders' Conference to prepare a short opening address, and one to conduct the meeting, and that at this meeting a collection be taken. (Journal, 1884, pp. 40, 67, 68.)

Financial Support and Collections.

I. That the Synod looks with confidence to all the members of our Church, and to our different Home Mission Societies, to co-operate with the Provincial Board of Church Extension in aiding and carrying forward our home-mission work. (Journal, 1881, pp. 95, 96, 97.)

II. That every Church of our Province be instructed to 3 take up at least one collection for Home Missions in every year.

III. That the Provincial Elders' Conference be instructed 4 to publish in our Church papers, toward the close of every year, a tabular statement of the contributions of all the churches to the Home Mission cause, and that those churches which have given nothing to this cause during the year, be endorsed with the word "nothing." (Journal, 1873, pp. 82, 83.)

IV. That a monthly Home Missionary prayer-meeting 5 and collection be held, wherever this is practicable. (Journal, 1884, pp. 48, 49.)

V. That the Provincial Board of Church Extension be 6 instructed to urge upon all our Home Mission congregations the duty of doing all in their power to provide for the support and comfort of the missionaries who are sent among them to care for their spiritual interests. (Journal, 1881, pp. 96, 97.)

News of the Work.

That Synod expects it as a matter of duty on the part of our 7 Home Missionaries, that they furnish frequent and detailed reports of the success and needs of their respective Home Mission-stations to the Church-papers. (Journal, 1884, pp. 48, 49.)

The Home Mission Debt.

That our congregations and Home Mission societies be 8 urged to show increased zeal and faithfulness in contributing to this cause, so that this debt may be paid, and that hereafter current expenses may be punctually met, and the work steadily advanced. (Journal, 1881, pp. 96, 97.)

The New York German Church.

1. That annual collections be taken up in all our congregations for the payment of the interest, and, ultimately, of the whole debt of our German Mission in New York City. (Journal, 1876, pp. 89, 91.)
1. II. That we urge the Provincial Elders' Conference and the Provincial Board of Church Extension to render the pastor of our German congregation in New York City all possible encouragement and assistance in devising ways and means to secure the purchase of a new church. (Journal, 1881, pp. 93, 94.)
2. III. WHEREAS, It has become imperatively necessary, if the German Mission in New York is to obtain a permanent foothold and development, that a suitable church edifice should be secured : therefore
3. *Resolved*, That the Synod recommend the Provincial Elders' Conference and the Provincial Board of Church Extension to sell the Mission property, No. 636 Sixth Street, New York, whenever suitable terms can be obtained and made ; with the following plan in view : *First*, that if the adjacent church can be purchased, the proceeds of the sale of the Sixth Street property be applied toward the payment of the purchase money ; *secondly*, that in such case the Provincial Elders' Conference be satisfied to take a second mortgage in place of the first mortgage now held on the New York German Mission property, for the loan from the Sustentation and Home Mission Funds. (Journal, 1881, pp. 97, 99.)

The Provincial Board of Church Extension.

4. I. That Synod appoint a Provincial Board of Church Extension to whom shall be committed the work of entering new fields of labor ; of starting and organizing mission enterprises ; of erecting church edifices for new congregations ; of aiding to liquidate indebtedness resting upon houses of worship, and of promoting in every other way the work of Church Extension in our Province.
5. II. The members of the Provincial Elders' Conference together with three lay brethren, to be elected by this Synod, shall constitute the Provincial Board of Church Extension, whose term of office shall be the same as that of the Provincial Elders' Conference. They shall be empowered to select their officers from their own number, provided that the Treasurer shall always be a layman, and

also to fill all vacancies which may occur by death, or otherwise.

III. The Board shall have authority to inaugurate and prosecute such efforts as shall result in the establishment of a Church Extension Fund of (\$50,000) Fifty Thousand Dollars ; and shall be authorized by Synod to have special collections taken up in all the churches of the Province, once every year, in aid of Church Extension, to be used as hereafter described ; *provided*, that on and after October 1, 1876, this Board assumes the support of the existing Home Mission work, with all its pecuniary obligations, and *provided*, that the proceeds of the present Church Extension Fund, and of the Newport Fund, be turned over to the new Board ; *provided*, also, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to work in opposition to the labors of any existing Home Mission Society.

IV. The Board, after securely and judiciously investing 2 this amount of \$50,000 as a permanent Church Extension Fund, shall cause the interest accruing from the same, together with such sums as shall be received from the special collections in the various churches, to be loaned or donated for the support and success of such religious enterprises as may have been inaugurated by or committed to the Board.

V. The Board shall visit, or cause to be visited, such enterprises as are under its care, so as to render advice and encouragement to the pastor who is in the midst of the hard labor and trials of developing his post, as also to indicate to his people such means and measures as will result in their temporal and spiritual prosperity ; it being understood that no member of this Board, as such, receive any salary whatever, and have no expenses paid by the Board, except those of traveling from place to place, in such a system of visitation.

VI. The Board shall present to each Synod a detailed 4 account of all moneys raised and expended, and what work has been done and with what results, in the extension of the Church.

VII. The members of the Board shall be entitled to seats 5 as advisory members in the various District Synods in the Province, the Board defraying their traveling expenses.

VIII. That Synod recommends to District Synods the 6 appointment of District Boards of Church Extension.

IX. That the Provincial Board of Church Extension be 7 directed to procure a charter, and that this charter be so

framed as to allow a change in the number of the Board by action of Synod.

- 1 X. That it is stipulated and agreed that no call shall be made on the Sustentation Fund for any of the money required to carry out the foregoing principles, and further, that the collections provided for shall in no wise interfere with those collections, annual or otherwise, which have been from time to time ordered by the Synod. (Journal, 1876, pp. 57-59, 83-85; 1881, pp. 95, 96.)
- 2 XI. That the Brethren C. A. Zoebisch, Joseph A. Rice, and Ashton C. Borhek be the lay members of the Provincial Board of Church Extension. (Journal, 1888, pp 91, 107.)
- 3 XII. That in view of the response so far made to the appeal for the establishment of a Church Extension Fund, Synod endorses the present plan of operations, and recommends the use of such further means as shall, under the blessing of God, result in the collection of the whole amount desired. (Journal, 1878, p. 162.)
- 4 XIII. That the Provincial Board of Church Extension be requested to devise a plan looking to the present use of the income of the Church Extension Fund, in so far as this can legally be done under the enactments of Synod, or by the consent of the contributors of said fund. (Journal, 1881, pp. 79, 98, 99.)
- 5 XIV. That the attention of the Board of Church Extension be called to the importance of employing a traveling missionary in the First and Second Districts. (Journal, 1884, p. 68.)

*Charter of an intended Corporation to be formed under the provisions of the Act of Assembly of April 29,
and the Supplements thereto.*

I.

- 6 The name of the Corporation shall be "The Board of Church Extension of the American Moravian Church."

II.

- 7 The purpose for which it is formed is the work of entering new fields of labor; of beginning and organizing mission enterprises; of erecting church edifices or parsonages; of aiding to liquidate indebtedness resting upon houses of worship or parsonages; and of promoting in every other way the work of Church Extension in the American Province of the Church of the United Brethren, or Moravians, and for the further purpose of carrying on the work of Home Missions according to such rules and regulations as the Synod of said American Province of the Church of the United Brethren, or Moravians, may from time to time adopt.

III.

The place or places where its business is to be transacted shall be at Bethlehem Borough, in the County of Northampton, and State of Pennsylvania, or at such other places in said State, as may, from time to time, be determined on by the Synod of the American Moravian Church. 1

IV.

The term for which it is to exist is to be perpetually, subject to the power of the General Assembly under the Constitution of this Commonwealth. 2

V.

The names and residences of the subscribers are:

Edmund de Schweinitz, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania; Eugene Leibert, Nazareth, Pennsylvania; Charles A. Zœbisch, New York City, New York; Augustus Schultze, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania; Joseph A. Rice, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania; Nathaniel S. Wolle, Lititz, Pennsylvania. 3

VI.

The Number of its Directors and the names and residences of those who are chosen Directors for the first year are:

Edmund de Schweinitz, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania; Eugene Leibert, Nazareth, Pennsylvania; Charles A. Zœbisch, New York City, New York; Augustus Schultze, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania; Joseph A. Rice, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania; Nathaniel S. Wolle, Lititz, Pennsylvania. Their successors shall be such and as many as may from time to time be determined by the Synod of the American Moravian Church: *Provided* that there shall always be an equal number of ministers and laymen. The said Board shall have authority to elect its own officers as it may see fit; the Treasurer, however, always to be a layman. 4

VII.

The amount of its capital stock.

The said Board of Church Extension shall be empowered to establish a Church Extension Fund which shall be kept intact and undiminished as an investment, the yearly income whereof shall be used in aid of the building of new houses of worship or of parsonages; or in liquidation of indebtedness resting upon houses of worship or parsonages: *Provided* that the money shall be invested in real securities and in such other securities as are named in the Acts of Assembly of Pennsylvania authorizing investments by trustees: *Provided* further that no loans of this fund or any part thereof shall be made upon the security of church property; and *Provided* further that the income of said fund shall not be used until the capital of the fund shall have reached the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars. 5

The Relative Functions and Duties of the Provincial and District Boards of Church Extension.

That the Synod refer this whole subject back to the Provincial Board of Church Extension, for the elaboration of a plan to be submitted to the next Provincial Synod. (Journal, 1881, pp. 58, 84.) 6

§ 116, 4. *Christian Union.*

- 1 I. That we hail the blessed union-movement among Christian denominations, which has so happily resulted from the great outpouring of the Holy Spirit during the last few years, as a most auspicious and important sign of the times, and that we will join it heart and soul. (Journal, 1861, pp. 52, 57.)
- 2 II. WHEREAS, Our Brethren of the Protestant Episcopal Church have invited us and all sister Protestant Churches in America to unite with them in a conference to be held with a view to promote godly union and concord among all who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity and truth ; and
- 3 WHEREAS, The fathers and founders of the Unitas Fratrum, in the century before the Protestant Reformation of the 16th Century, did, in the interests of what they accepted as the Faith of Christ and His Apostles, secure for themselves the Historic Episcopate ; and
- 4 WHEREAS, From the beginning our Moravian Church has, in all the centuries of its existence and activity in all portions of the Christian and heathen world, maintained a position of most cordial recognition of and fellowship with its Brethren of the various Churches of Christ, in these parts, of varied name and constitution :
- 5 1. *Resolved*, That we hail with joy any effort put forth, in good faith, to secure closer fellowship and communion between the Churches of Christ in our country.
- 6 2. *Resolved*, That to this end a Committee, consisting of the five Bishops of the Northern District of the American Province, and of three ministerial and two lay Brethren in the District, be appointed to confer with similar Committees of Conference at such time and place as may be agreed upon.
- 7 3. *Resolved*, That we invoke upon the Churches in our land, the blessing of Him Who hath said : "One is your Master, even Christ, and all ye are Brethren."
- 8 4. *Resolved*, That this Preamble and these Resolutions with the names of the Committee of Conference be communicated to the Secretary of the Commission by the Secretary of Synod. (Journal, 1888, pp. 88, 111.)

The American Bible Society.

- 9 I. That, recognizing the Holy Scriptures as the most precious treasure given by God to man, this Synod hereby expresses its sincere appreciation of the object and work of

that greatest of all the benevolent institutions of America, the American Bible Society, and its gratitude to God for the existence of such an association in the land.

II. That it believes the past and present prosperity of our country to be the result chiefly of the dissemination of the Word of God as accomplished by the efforts of the American Bible Society, and also that the future successful continuance of this republican government depends upon the conduct of the Nation with reference to that Word. 1

III. That we hereby extend to this Society our warmest sympathies in the carrying out of the objects of its organization, and pledge to it the hearty co-operation of this our branch of the Church of God. (Journal, 1876, p. 101.) 2

Corresponding Delegates.

That in the interval between this and the next Provincial Synod the Provincial Elders' Conference be directed to appoint Corresponding Delegates to represent our Church at the Synods of such sister Churches as have sent Corresponding Delegates to our Provincial Synods. (Journal, 1888, pp. 69, 92.) 3

§ 117. EDUCATION OF YOUTH.

In our Church Schools.

I. That the Synod solemnly reasserts the principle on which our schools are grounded, viz.: *That they are for the winning and educating of youth for the Saviour.* (Journal, 1876, pp. 86, 87.) 4

II. That we gratefully acknowledge the preservation of our Educational Institutions, and their continuance through these trying times, as due, above all else, to the interposition of a kind Providence, and we desire so to improve and employ these important agencies for Christian work that the name of Christ may thereby be abundantly glorified. 5

III. That we highly commend the praise-worthy efforts, put forth to increase the efficiency of our Church schools, by elevating the standard of scholarship. 6

IV. That the regular course of study in all our Church-schools shall include at least one hour per week of religious instruction, to be given by the Principal himself, or by some other competent person. (Journal, 1878, pp. 140, 141.) 7

- 1 V. That this Synod urges upon the Principals and teachers of our Church-schools, to continue to use their best endeavors to carry out the system of education which has always obtained amongst us, and which aims rather at imparting thorough instruction, and laying a solid foundation upon which the scholar shall ever be enabled to build, than at achieving more brilliant, but more transient and superficial results. (Journal, 1864., pp. 60, 65.)
- 2 VI. That this Synod fully approves of the plan now pursued or proposed to be pursued by the Board of Trustees and the Principals of the Church-schools, of grading the compensation paid to teachers according to the quality and length of service rendered.
- 3 VII. That the religious instruction and training of the pupils in our Church-schools, shall continue to form a first object of concern on the part of Principals and teachers. See Results of General Synod, 1857, § 91. (Journal, 1867, pp. 97, 101.)

Teachers are Cherished Servants of the Church.

- 4 I. That no persons shall be received into our schools as teachers until the Principal shall have satisfied himself as to their moral and Christian character, and that, as a general rule, members of our Church shall have the preference for such situations, when their qualifications are the same as those of other applicants. (Journal, 1867, pp. 97, 101.)
- 5 II. That the Synod affectionately reminds the Principals and teachers of these institutions that they are cherished servants of the Church, through whom the duty of training the young should so be discharged that the Church may stand clear of the guilt of souls on the great day of the Lord. (Journal, 1876, pp. 86, 87.)
- 6 III. The duty of pensioning those teachers who have devoted their strength to service in our Church-schools, rests in the first instance on those schools in which they have chiefly or last served. (Synodal Results, 1848, § 97.)

Duty of the Provincial Elders' Conference and the Principals towards the Schools.

- 7 I. That it be enjoined upon the Provincial Elders' Conference as a duty, to make and keep themselves thoroughly acquainted with both the external and internal concerns of the educational institutions placed under their care.
- II. That the Provincial Elders' Conference be expressly charged with the supervision, direction and control

of all the educational institutions of the Province during the interval between the adjournment of one Synod and the convening of the next.

III. That the Principals or Directors of the several schools be required, at the close of each financial year, to make out and submit to the Provincial Elders' Conference a correct and full statement of the assets and liabilities of the institutions committed to their special direction, and likewise a full and properly specified account of the receipts and disbursements of the same during the financial year. 1

IV. That the amount to be paid over to the Sustentation Diacony out of the profits of the school, if there be any, be annually fixed by the Provincial Elders' Conference after due consultation with the Principal or Inspector, and after having thoroughly examined the statement of accounts submitted by the Principal. 2

V. That at the close of each school year, a report concerning the internal condition of the institution and the general results of the operations of the past year, be drawn up by each Principal or Director, and submitted to the Provincial Elders' Conference. 3

VI. That the education and training of those pupils in our educational institutions who are the children of our ministers or members of our Church, be at all times an object of the special regard of the Inspectors and teachers, and that such children may receive an education and training as will in all respects fit them for usefulness in the various departments of our Church. 4

VII. That no teacher be appointed without the knowledge and consent of the Provincial Elders' Conference. 5

VIII. That the salaries of all persons employed in our educational institutions as teachers or otherwise, domestics excepted, be fixed by the Principal, subject to the approval of the Provincial Elders' Conference. 6

IX. That no new building be erected, or extraordinary and extensive repairs undertaken, and in general no expenses of any extraordinary nature be incurred, without the previous knowledge and consent of the Provincial Elders' Conference. 7

X. That it be enjoined upon the Principals of all our educational institutions as a duty not to be neglected, to keep the Provincial Elders' Conference informed, by correspondence or otherwise, of everything of consequence transpiring in said institutions, relating to their external or internal concerns. 8

- 1 XI. That official visits by at least one member of the Provincial Elders' Conference be made at least once a year in each of our educational institutions. (Journal, 1858, pp. 93-95.)
- 2 XII. That it shall be the duty of the Provincial Elders' Conference to hold an annual and thorough visitation of each of the Church-schools, and to inform themselves by personal examination concerning the actual scholastic, moral, and religious condition of these institutions. (Journal, 1870, p. 70.)

AN ACT

To Incorporate the Moravian Seminary for Young Ladies at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

- 3 WHEREAS, The Church of the United Brethren, (commonly called Moravians) has maintained a Boarding School for the education of Young Ladies at Bethlehem, Northampton County, Pa., since the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five; and
- 4 WHEREAS, The course of studies pursued in said institution embraces the various branches of the arts, sciences, literature, and the ancient and modern languages, usually pursued in the highest institutions of a similar kind; and
- 5 WHEREAS, It is deemed by the authorities of said Church to be advisable and necessary for the more convenient management of the concerns of said school, to have said school incorporated;
- 6 SEC. I.—Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same
- 7 That the Right Reverend John Christian Jacobson, Bishop, and the Reverend Francis Florentine Hagen, and the Reverend Sylvester Wolle, all of the borough of Bethlehem, duly elected by the Synod of the Northern District of the American Province of the United Brethren, a Board of Direction of the ecclesiastical affairs of said Church in said District, and likewise constituted by virtue of their office, the Board of Trustees of said Boarding School, and such other persons as may hereafter be appointed their associates or successors, according to the rules and regulations of said branch of the Church of the United Brethren, be and they are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic, in fact and in law, by the name and style of "The Moravian Seminary for Young Ladies at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania," and by that name shall be capable of perpetual succession, may sue and be sued, may have and use a common seal, and alter and change the same at pleasure, and shall also be capable to accept and take, by devise, grant, bargain, sale or otherwise, any estate, or property, real or personal, and the same to hold and enjoy, or to sell and convey, lease, or mortgage, as fully and absolutely, in all respects, as any natural person might do. *Provided*, however, That the clear annual income of the estate and properties of said Corporation, exclusive of any lands or tenements that may be occupied by said school for its accommodations, or that of its officers or professors, and exclusive of income from students, shall not exceed the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars.
- 8 SEC. II.—That the Trustees already appointed, or who shall hereafter be appointed in accordance with the fundamental statutes which govern the Church of the United Brethren aforesaid, shall have the

care and management of said school, and of its estates and properties, and shall have power to make all needful by-laws and regulations for the appointment of competent professors and teachers, for the fixing and payment of all salaries, for the fixing of prices of the board and tuition of students, for the studies and exercises of the students, and for the general well-being of said school. *Provided*, That the said statutes, by-laws and regulations shall not be inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of this Commonwealth, or of the United States, or the enactments of the Synod of said Church of the United Brethren.

SEC. III.—That no misnomer, or misdirection of the said Corporation, in any will, deed, grant, or other instrument of writing, shall vitiate or defeat the same, but that the same shall take effect in the same manner as if said Corporation were rightly named therein. *Provided*, That it is sufficiently described to ascertain the intention of the parties. 1

SEC. IV.—That the Trustees, in connection with the President or Principal of said Seminary and his assistants, shall have power to grant and confer such degrees in the liberal arts and sciences, or such branches thereof, to such students of the Seminary, or others, as from their proficiency in learning they may deem justly entitled to such honors, and such as are usually granted by institutions of a similar kind, and to grant diplomas or certificates under their common seal, as may authenticate and perpetuate the memory of such graduation. 2

JOHN CESSNA,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

G. V. LAWRENCE,
Speaker of the Senate.

Approved, The third day of April, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three.

A. G. CURTIN.

AN ACT

To Incorporate the Linden Hall Seminary at Lititz, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, The Church of the United Brethren (commonly called Moravians) has maintained a Boarding School for Young Ladies at Lititz, Lancaster County, since the year one thousand eight hundred; and 3

WHEREAS, The course of studies pursued in said institution embraces the various branches of the arts, sciences, literature, and the ancient and modern languages, usually pursued in the best institutions of a similar kind; and 4

WHEREAS, It is deemed by the authorities of said Church to be advisable and necessary for the further well-being and the more convenient management of the concerns of said school to have said school incorporated; 5

Therefore,

SECTION I.—Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same 6

That the Right Reverend John Christian Jacobson, Bishop, and the Reverend Francis Florentine Hagen, and the Reverend Sylvester

Wolle, all of the borough of Bethlehem, duly elected by the Synod of the Northern District of the American Province of the United Brethren, a Board of Direction of the ecclesiastical affairs of said Church in said District, and likewise constituted by virtue of their office, the Board of Trustees of said Boarding School, and such other persons as may be hereafter appointed their associates or successors, according to the rules and regulations of said branch of the Church of the United Brethren, be and they are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic, in fact and in law, by the name and style of the Linden Hall Seminary, at Lititz, Pennsylvania, and by that name shall be capable of perpetual succession, may sue and be sued, may have and use a common seal, and alter and change the same at pleasure, and shall also be capable to accept and take, by devise, grant, bargain, sale or otherwise, any estate, or property, real or personal, and the same to hold and enjoy, or to sell or convey, lease, or mortgage, as fully and absolutely, in all respects, as any natural person might do. *Provided*, however, That the clear annual income of the estates and properties of said Corporation, exclusive of any lands or tenements that may be occupied by said school for its accommodations, or that of its officers or teachers, and exclusive of income from students, shall not exceed the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars.

- 1 SEC. II.—That the Trustees already appointed, or who shall hereafter be appointed in accordance with the fundamental statutes which govern the Church of the United Brethren aforesaid, shall have the care and management of said school, and of its estates and properties, and shall have power to make all needful by-laws and regulations for the appointment of competent professors and teachers, for the fixing and payment of all salaries, for the fixing of prices of board and tuition of students, for the studies and exercises of the students, and for the general well-being of said school. *Provided*, That the said statutes, by-laws and regulations shall not be inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of this Commonwealth, or of the United States, or the enactments of the Synods of said Church of the United Brethren.
- 2 SEC. III.—That no misnomer, or misdirection of the said Corporation, in any will, deed, grant, or other instrument of writing, shall vitiate or defeat the same, but that the same shall take effect in the same manner as if said Corporation were rightly named therein. *Provided*, That it is sufficiently described to ascertain the intention of the parties.
- 3 SEC. IV.—That the Trustees, in connection with the President or Principal of said Seminary and his assistants, shall have power to grant and confer such degrees in the liberal arts and sciences, or such branches thereof, to such students of the Seminary, or others, as from their proficiency in learning, they may deem justly entitled to such honors, and such as are usually granted by institutions of a similar kind, and to grant diplomas or certificates under their common seal, as may authenticate and perpetuate the memory of such graduation.

JOHN CESSNA,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

G. V. LAWRENCE,
Speaker of the Senate.

Approved, The third day of April, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three.

A. G. CURTIN.

Nazareth Hall.

I. That the Trustees and Principal of Nazareth Hall in **1** connection with such other assistance as they may wish to call to their aid, endeavor to procure from the friends of the institution contributions towards its endowment.

II. That the Principal of Nazareth Hall give his earnest **2** attention to the subject of the feasibility of a division of the pupils into two departments, the younger of which shall remain under the same watchful guardianship as now, the older to have some enlarged liberties, that shall not, at the same time, conflict with a careful supervision over them, and that he be at liberty, after submitting the plan to the approval of the Provincial Elders' Conference, to carry the same into effect. (Journal, 1867, pp. 97, 98, 101.)

AN ACT

To Incorporate the Nazareth Hall Boarding School, at Nazareth, Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, The Church of the United Brethren (commonly called Moravians) has established and maintained a Boarding School for Boys at Nazareth, Northampton County, since the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five; and **3**

WHEREAS, It is deemed by the authorities of said Church, to be **4** advisable and necessary for the more convenient management of the concerns of said school to have said school incorporated;

Therefore,

SECTION I.—Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same **5**

That the Right Reverend John Christian Jacobson, Bishop, and the Reverend Francis Florentine Hagen, and the Reverend Sylvester Wolle, all of the borough of Bethlehem, duly elected by the Synod of the Northern District of the American Province of the United Brethren, a Board of Direction of the ecclesiastical affairs of said Church in said District, and likewise constituted by virtue of their office, the Board of Trustees of said Boarding School, and such other persons as may be hereafter appointed their associates or successors, according to the rules and regulations of said branch of the Church of the United Brethren, be and they are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic, in fact and in law, by the name and style of Nazareth Hall Boarding School, and by that name shall be capable of perpetual succession, may sue and be sued, may have and use a common seal, and alter and change the same at pleasure, and shall also be capable to accept and take, by devise, grant, bargain, sale or otherwise, any estate or property, real or personal, and the same to hold and enjoy, or to sell and convey, lease or mortgage, as fully and absolutely, in all respects, as any natural person might do. *Provided*, however, That the clear annual income of the estates and properties of said Corporation, exclusive of any lands or tenements that may be occupied by said school for its accommodations, or that of its officers or professors, and exclusive of income from students, shall not exceed the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars. **6**

- 1** SEC. II.—That the Trustees and Overseers already appointed, or who shall hereafter be appointed in accordance with the fundamental statutes which govern the Church of the United Brethren aforesaid, shall have the care and management of said school, and of its estates and properties, and shall have power to make all needful by-laws and regulations for the appointment of competent professors and teachers, for the fixing and payment of all salaries, for the fixing of prices of the board and tuition of students, for the studies and exercises of the students, and for the general well-being of said school.
Provided, That the said statutes, by-laws and regulations shall not be inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of this Commonwealth, or of the United States.
- 2** SEC. III.—That no misnomer, or misdirection of the said Corporation, in any will, deed, grant, or other instrument of writing, shall vitiate or defeat the same, but that the same shall take effect in the same manner as if said Corporation were rightly named therein.
Provided, It is sufficiently described to ascertain the intention of the parties.

JOHN CESSNA,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

G. V. LAWRENCE,

Speaker of the Senate.

Approved, The fourteenth day of April, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three.

A. G. CURTIN.

§ 119. CHURCH PUBLICATIONS.

Moravian Publication Office.

- 3** I. That the duty and interests of the Church demand that a strenuous effort should be made to use the instrumentality of the press, as a powerful agency in promoting the work which belongs to every Church of Christ.
- 4** II. That the Provincial Elders' Conference be authorized, whenever they deem such a step practicable, to create a printing and publishing establishment, in which shall be published the Church-paper, and from time to time, as occasion demands and the funds of the concern will allow, works relating to the history, polity, ritual and doctrine of the Church, provided that this can be done without infringing upon the interests of other established funds and enterprises of the Church. (Journal, 1864, pp. 52, 53.)
- 5** III. That Synod authorizes the Provincial Elders' Conference to combine the printing office and book-store, together with a bindery, in one establishment. (Journal, 1867, pp. 74, 75.)
- 6** IV. WHEREAS, We believe the following to be the correct principles for the management of the entire Publication Concern, and to be in accord with the original purpose: 1. The regarding of the Church-papers, the job

printing, and publishing department, the book-store, etc., as integral parts of one inseparable concern; 2. The merging of the separate financial interests of each department into one whole; 3. The responsible management of the entire Concern by a Secretary of Publications under the direction of the Provincial Elders' Conference,

Resolved, That Synod instructs the Provincial Elders' Conference to carry this plan into effect, as fully as may be feasible, during the next Synodal term. (Journal, 1884, pp. 60, 61.) 1

V. That the Publication Office be deemed one of the permanent enterprises of the Church, to be carried on in the future upon substantially the same basis as at present. (Journal, 1888, pp. 75, 93.) 2

VI. That the Joint Board be authorized to provide the money needed for a fire-proof vault, for additional press-room, for additional presses, for an elevator and for an office on the ground floor; *provided*, that a reasonable increase in the rent is made in order to cover the interest on the money needed for the improvements in the building: and *provided*, further, that interest be charged and accounted for on that needed for better equipment of the Printing Department. (Journal, 1888, pp. 82, 98.) 3

VII. That ministers and other agents be requested to be more careful and prompt in settling their accounts with the Bethlehem book-store. (Journal, 1864, pp. 63, 64.) 4

VIII. That the Manager of the Publication Concern be instructed to endeavor to bring about cash dealings with the ministers and other authorized agents of the Publication Concern. (Journal, 1888, pp. 82, 98.) 5

IX. That a settlement with the agent of the book-store at Bethlehem shall be made every three months. (Journal, 1861, pp. 50, 62.) 6

X. That the Advisory Financial Board be requested and empowered to make an annual examination of the management and condition of the Publication Office, and report to the Provincial Elders' Conference the result of such examination. (Journal, 1881, pp. 53, 81.) 7

A History of the Brethren's Church.

That the Provincial Elders' Conference take measures for the early publication of a History of the Moravian Brethren's Church. (Journal, 1864, pp. 52, 53.) 8

Appendix to the Text Book.

- 1 That the Provincial Elders' Conferencee prepare or cause to be prepared, each year, a short appendix to the annual Text Book, which shall contain a table of daily Scripture lessons, interesting facts in connection with the history of the Church and its Missions, the statistics of the same, and any other matter which may be ealeulated to inform and edify—this appendix to be confined to such a number of pages, as will not materially enhance the priece of the book. (Journal, 1864, pp. 52, 53.)

The Moravian Manual.

- 2 I. That a Committee of One be appointed by the Provin-
cial Elders' Conference to prepare for publication a new
and revised edition of "The Moravian Manual," the man-
uscript to be submitted to the Provinceial Elders' Confer-
encee for approval, before it is published.
- 3 II. That the publication of such Manual be delayed
until after the meeting of the next General Synod. (Jour-
nal, 1888, pp. 37, 62.)

The Sunday-School Hymn-Book.

- 4 That the Provinceial Elders' Conferencee be requested to appoint a Committee of five brethren to thoroughly revise the English Sunday-school Hymn-book, and that said Com-
mittee include at least two laymen specially interested in Sunday-school work. (Journal, 1888, pp. 75, 93.)

Communion Liturgies.

- 5 I. That the Seeretary of Publicieations be authorized to insert English and German Liturgies in full, instead of in outline as at present, in the Hymn-book, and that these liturgies be also printed separately in book form.
- 6 II. That the number of these liturgies be increased to at least eight.
- 7 III. That two Committees of three each be appointed by the Provinceial Elders' Conference to compile these liturgies. (Journal, 1888, pp. 75, 93.)
- 8 IV. That in preparing the Communion Hymn-book care be exercised to use such tunes only as are familiar through-
out the Province. (Journal, 1888, p. 115.)

Questions.

That the following questions be addressed to the Secretary of Publications : 1

I. State the number of Church periodicals taken in the congregations. 2

II. How many new subscribers to the several Church-papers have you or the agent in your congregation secured during the last Synodical term ? (Journal, 1873, pp. 63, 64 ; 3
1876, pp. 66, 67 ; 1888, pp. 98, 111.)

Financial Rules, etc.

I. That our ministers use all their influence to increase 4 the circulation of our Church-papers, and that they appoint a lay member of their congregations to solicit subscribers for those papers. (Journal, 1861, p. 64.)

II. That a brother be appointed in each congregation as 5 agent for the Church-papers, and that the ministers be urged to co-operate heartily with the agents in extending their circulation. (Journal, 1884, p. 60.)

III. That the Secretary of Publications be authorized by 6 Synod to employ Canvassing Agents for our Church-papers, with the liberty of offering such remuneration to said agents as will secure the object of their appointment. (Journal, 1888, pp. 37, 62.)

The Editorial Committees.

I. That the Provincial Elders' Conference be empowered 7 to appoint an Editorial Committee for each of the Church-papers, to consist of not less than three brethren, one of whom shall be designated as the Responsible Managing Editor.

II. That no salaries be paid to the Editorial Committees, 8 but that these Committees shall receive such fees for their services from the net profits of the papers as the Provincial Elders' Conference shall deem proper, and that all necessary expenses of stationery, postage and occasional consultations, if these shall be deemed necessary, shall be paid out of the receipts of the papers. (Journal, 1881, p. 87.)

THE MORAVIAN.

Creative Resolution.

- 1** That a weekly paper be issued * * * * under the title of *The Moravian*. (Journal, 1855, pp. 136, 137.)

Course of the Paper Sanctioned and Prescribed.

- 2** That Synod approves of the course taken by the Editors of *The Moravian* in the publication of said paper, and that they be requested to continue in the course hitherto pursued by them, to admit all communications drawn up in a brotherly spirit, and free from personalities, and which have a tendency towards a free discussion of everything belonging to our Church and its government. (Journal, 1856, p. 99.)

The Church Paper is Indispensable.

- 3** That our Church-paper shall hereafter occupy a fully recognized position as an indispensable branch of Church activity and usefulness, and that it deserves the universal support of our membership. (Journal, 1864, pp. 52, 53.)

Payment of Correspondents and Writers.

- 4** That the Editor of *The Moravian* be authorized to employ correspondents and writers, who shall receive a reasonable compensation, which expense shall be paid out of the income of *The Moravian*. (Journal, 1870, p. 90.)

Increase of Circulation.

- 5** That ministers be especially charged to make it a duty to see that the circulation of *The Moravian* be increased in their congregations, and at each District Synod and Provincial Synod report the number of copies taken. (Journal, 1873, pp. 73, 74.)

DER BRUEDER BOTSCHAFTER.

Creative Resolution.

- 6** That as soon as the Provincial Elders' Conference shall be satisfied of the feasibility of issuing a German weekly or semi-monthly Church paper, such a publication shall be commenced, the form, subscription price and editorship of such journal to be determined by them. (Journal, 1864, pp. 52, 53.)

Also Indispensable.

That *Der Brüder Botschafter* shall hereafter, equally with **1** *The Moravian*, occupy a fully recognized position as an indispensable branch of Church activity and usefulness, and that Synod recommend the ministers and members of the Church to use their best efforts to increase its circulation. (Journal, 1867, p. 75.)

Call for Support.

That this Synod recommend to the German brethren in **2** the ministry to furnish such original matter for the *Botschafter* as would interest the members of their charges, so as to make it self-supporting or even profitable, and to use their influence to obtain subscribers. (Journal, 1870, p. 90.)

To be Issued Weekly.

That the *Botschafter* be issued weekly, if deemed advisable **3** by the Secretary of Publications and the Provincial Elders' Conference. (Journal, 1873, p. 74.)

Enlargement Permitted.

That the Synod authorize the enlargement of *Der Brüder Botschafter*, if the Provincial Elders' Conference and the Secretary of Publications are satisfied that in any way the necessary means can be provided. (Journal, 1888, pp. 75, 93, 95.)

THE LITTLE MISSIONARY.

Creative Resolution.

That the Editor of *The Moravian* in connection with the **5** Provincial Elders' Conference, be authorized to make arrangements for the early publication of a Child's Paper, for the use of our Sunday-schools, if they find it expedient. (Journal, 1870, p. 90.)

Duty of Ministers and Sunday School Superintendents.

That we regard it to be the duty of all our ministers and **6** Sunday-school superintendents, in selecting illustrated papers for the Sunday-school, to give the preference to our own publication, *The Little Missionary*, which was brought into existence by act of Synod, is well calculated to afford solid instruction, and can only improve in its exterior attractiveness if more liberally patronized by our congregations. (Journal, 1878, p. 141.)

DER MISSIONS FREUND.

Creative Resolution.

- 1 I. That a monthly German Sunday-school paper, similar to *The Little Missionary*, be published, commencing with January, 1889, in the confident hope that the Directors of the Society for Propagating the Gospel among the Heathen will aid the enterprise.
- 2 II. That a Committee be appointed by the Provincial Elders' Conference to edit the same, said Committee to be selected, if possible, from among the brethren who serve German congregations. (Journal, 1888, pp. 76, 96.)

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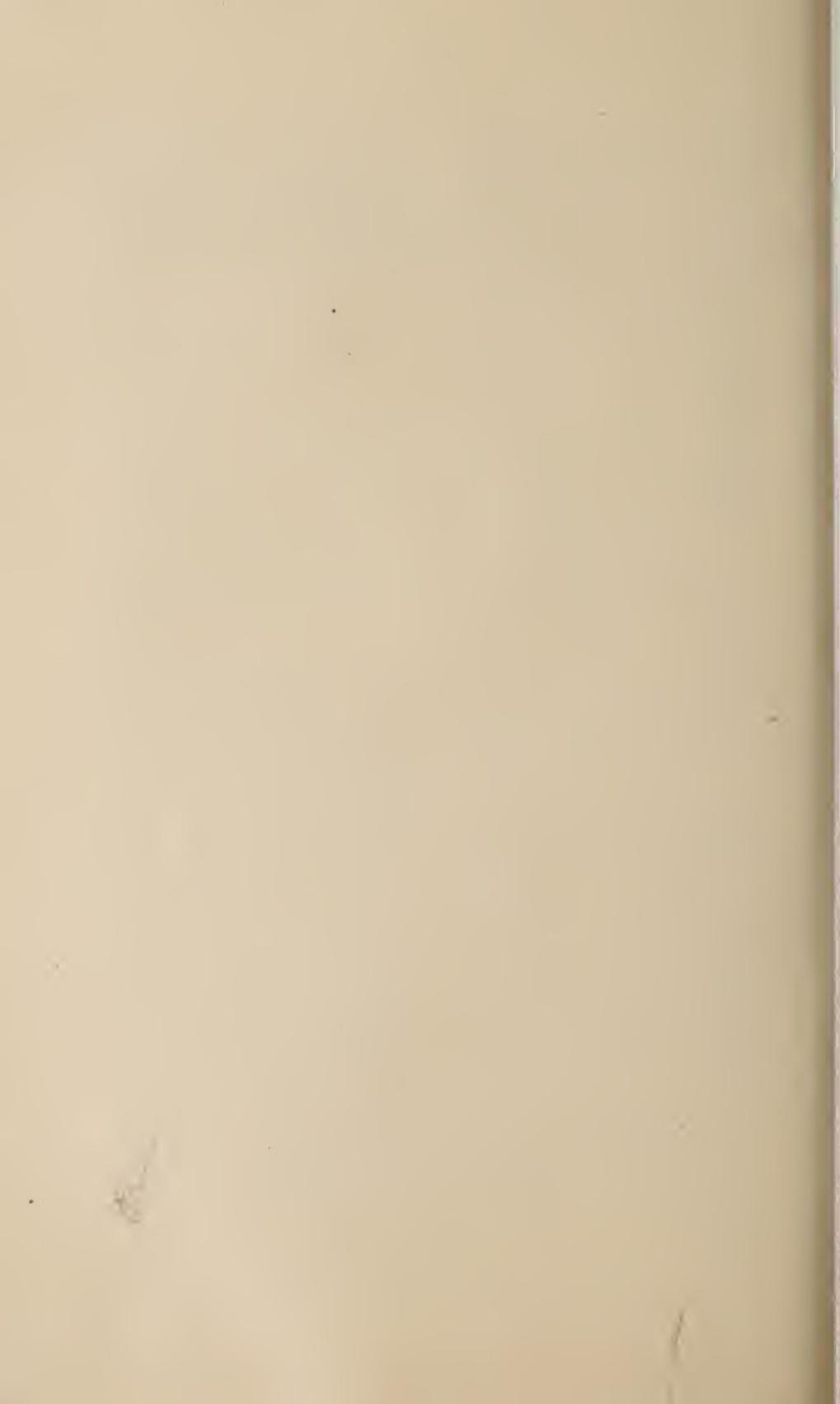
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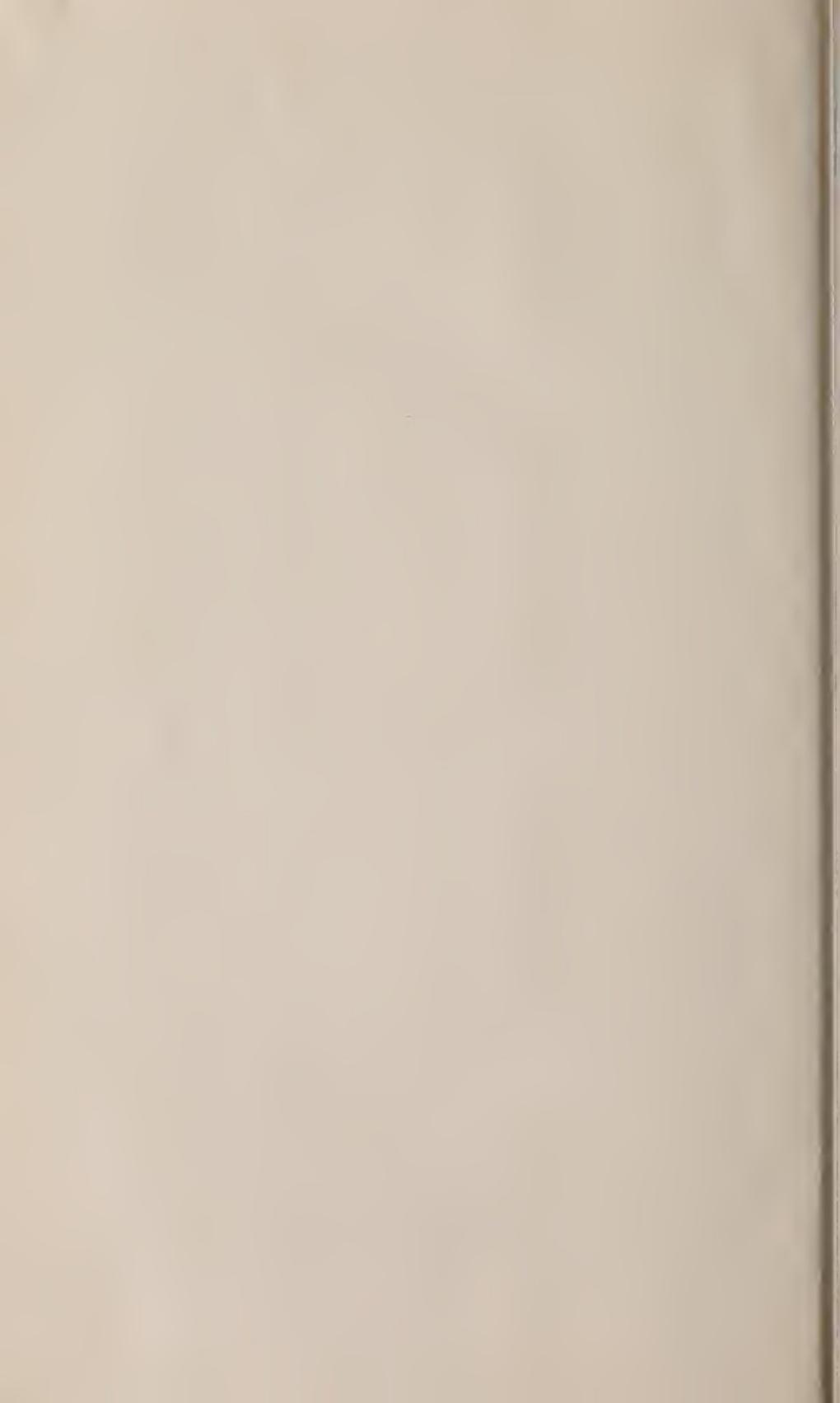
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